

BEAR TRAP



San Bernardino official Cindy Bachman speaks to reporters about the manhunt for Christopher Dorner at a checkpoint on State Route 38 in Yucaipa, Calif., Feb. 12, 2013.

(P. Fallon/The New York Times)

**GILLIAN FLACCUS
TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press**

BIG BEAR, California (AP) — The extraordinary manhunt for the former Los Angeles police officer suspected of three murders converged Tuesday on a mountain cabin where authorities believe he barricaded himself inside, engaged in a shootout that killed a deputy and then never emerged as the home went up in flames.

A single gunshot was heard from within, and a charred body was found inside.

If the man inside proves to be Christopher Dorner, the search for the most wanted man in America over the last week would have ended the way he had expected — death, with the police pursuing him.

Thousands of officers had been on the hunt for the former Navy reservist since police said he launched a campaign to exact revenge against the Los Angeles Police Department for his firing.

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Vice President Joe Biden and House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio applaud President Barack Obama as he gives his State of the Union address during a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday Feb. 12, 2013.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

Obama: Nation stronger, GOP should back plans

**JULIE PACE
Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Uncompromising and politically emboldened, President Barack Obama urged a deeply divided Congress Tuesday night to embrace his plans to use government money to create jobs and strengthen the nation's middle class. He declared Republican ideas for re-

ducing the deficit "even worse" than the unpalatable deals Washington had to stomach during his first term. In his first State of the Union address since winning re-election, Obama conceded economic revival is an "unfinished task," but he claimed clear progress and said he was seeking to build on it as he embarks on four more years in

office. "We have cleared away the rubble of crisis, and we can say with renewed confidence that the state of our union is strong," Obama said, speaking before a joint session of Congress and a television audience of millions. In specific proposals for his second term, an assertive Obama called for increased federal spending to fix the na-

tion's roads and bridges, the first increase in the minimum wage in six years and expansion of early education to every American 4-year-old. Seeking to appeal for support from Republicans, he promised that none of his proposals would increase the deficit "by a single dime."

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Obama: Nation stronger, GOP should back plans

Continued from front

In the Republican response to Obama's address, rising GOP star Marco Rubio of Florida came right back at the president, saying his solution "to virtually every problem we face is for Washington to tax more, borrow more and spend more."

Sen. Rubio, in prepared remarks, said presidents of both parties have recognized that the free enterprise system brings middle-class prosperity.

"But President Obama?"

ity for the president and could disrupt his plans for pursuing a broader agenda, including immigration overhaul, stricter gun laws and climate change legislation.

Standing in Obama's way is a Congress that remains nearly as divided as it was during the final years of his first term, when Washington lurched from one crisis to another.

The president implored lawmakers to break through partisan logjams, asserting that "the great-

ing instead on the need to protect programs that help the middle class, elderly and poor.

He did reiterate his willingness to tackle entitlement changes, particularly on Medicare, though he has ruled out increasing the eligibility age for the popular benefit program for seniors. Republicans are ardently opposed to Obama's calls for legislating more tax revenue to reduce the deficit and offset broad the automatic spending cuts — known as the sequester

your choice."

Numerous lawmakers wore green lapel ribbons in memory of those killed in the December shootings in Connecticut. Among those watching in the House gallery: the parents of 15-year-old Hadiya Pendleton, shot and killed recently in a park just a mile from the president's home in Chicago, as well as other victims of gun violence.

On the economy, Obama called for raising the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$9 by 2015. The

G7 seeking to end currency war concerns

PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The Group of Seven leading industrial nations, which includes the U.S., Japan and Germany, warned Tuesday that volatile movements in exchange rates could adversely hit the global economy.

There have been increasing concerns around the world that countries might manipulate their exchange rates through their domestic economic policies in order to gain an edge. A lower foreign exchange rate can make a country's exports cheaper, thereby boosting growth. But one currency can fall only if another rises - which in turn will create trade problems for other countries.

This process could spark a "currency war" — a destabilizing battle where countries compete against one another to get the lowest exchange rate.

In a statement published Tuesday on the Bank of England website, the G-7 finance ministers and central bankers insisted they remained committed to exchange rates driven by the market — not government or central bank policies — and would consult closely when it comes to sharp movements in foreign currency markets.

"We are agreed that excessive volatility and disorderly movements in exchange rates can have adverse implications for economic and financial stability," said the G-7, which also counts Canada, France, Italy and current president, the U.K., among its members.

The statement comes ahead of a meeting in Moscow at the weekend of finance ministers from the world's top 20 industrial and developing countries. In light of the recent swings in the foreign exchange markets, notably relating to the Japanese yen, currency issues were expected to feature heavily during the Group of 20 discussions in the Russian capital. □



President Barack Obama is applauded as he gives his State of the Union address during a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday Feb. 12, 2013.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Rubio said. "He believes it's the cause of our problems."

Obama also announced new steps to reduce the U.S. military footprint abroad, with 34,000 American troops withdrawing from Afghanistan within a year. And he had a sharp rebuke for North Korea, which launched a nuclear test just hours before his remarks, saying, "Provocations of the sort we saw last night will only isolate them further."

Despite the pressing foreign policy concerns, jobs and growth dominated Obama's prime-time address, underscoring the degree to which the economy remains a vulnerabil-

est nation on Earth cannot keep conducting its business by drifting from one manufactured crisis to the next." "Americans don't expect government to solve every problem," he said. "They do expect us to forge reasonable compromise where we can."

Yet Obama offered few signs of being willing to compromise himself, instead doubling down on his calls to create jobs by spending more government money and insisting that lawmakers pay down the deficit through a combination of targeted spending cuts and tax increases. But he offered few specifics on what he wanted to see cut, focus-

— that are to take effect March 1.

Obama broke little new ground on two agenda items he has pushed vigorously since winning reelection: overhauling the nation's fractured immigration laws and enacting tougher gun control measures in the wake of the horrific massacre of school children in Newtown, Conn. Yet he pressed for urgency on both, calling on Congress to send him an immigration bill "in the next few months" and insisting lawmakers hold votes on his gun proposals. "Each of these proposals deserves a vote in Congress," he said. "If you want to vote no, that's

minimum wage has been stagnant since 2007, and administration officials said the increase would strengthen purchasing power. The president also wants Congress to approve automatic increases in the wage to keep pace with inflation. Looking for common ground anywhere he could find it, Obama framed his proposal to boost the minimum wage by pointing out that even his GOP presidential rival liked the idea. He said, "Here's an idea that Gov. Romney and I actually agreed on last year: Let's tie the minimum wage to the cost of living, so that it finally becomes a wage you can live on." □

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AP source:

Body found in rubble of burned cabin likely Dorner

Continued from front

They say he threatened to bring "warfare" to officers and their families, spreading fear and setting off a search for him across the Southwest and Mexico.

"Enough is enough. It's time for you to turn yourself in. It's time to stop the bloodshed," LAPD Cmdr. Andrew Smith said at a news conference held outside police headquarters in Los Angeles, a starkly different atmosphere than last week when officials briefed the news media under tight security with Dorner on the loose.

A short time after Smith spoke Tuesday, smoke began to rise from the cabin in the snow-covered woods near Big Bear Lake, a resort town about 80 miles (128 kilometers) east of Los Angeles. Flames then engulfed the building — images that were broadcast on live television around the world. TV helicopters showed the fire burning freely with no apparent effort to extinguish it.

"We have reason to believe that it is him," said San Bernardino County sheriff's spokeswoman Cynthia

Bachman, adding that she didn't know how the fire started. She noted there was gunfire between the

The location was directly across the street from where law enforcement set up their command post on

ficer pursued the vehicle and there was a shooting at 12:42 p.m. local time in which the wildlife vehicle

Bear Lake Mayor Jay Obernolte said of the deputy's death and the wounding of his colleague. "Words can't express how grateful we are for the sacrifice those men have made in defense of the community and our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families."

The man believed to be Dorner never came out of the cabin, and a single shot was heard inside before the cabin was engulfed in flames, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

The official later told the AP that a charred body was found in the burned cabin. The official requested anonymity because of the ongoing investigation.

Officials were waiting for the fire to burn out before approaching the ruins to search for a body.

Police say Dorner began his run on Feb. 6 after they connected the slayings of a former police captain's daughter and her fiancé with an angry Facebook rant they said he posted. Threats against the LAPD led officials to assign officers to protect officers and their families. □



Law enforcement officials respond after Christopher Dorner, the fugitive ex-Los Angeles cop sought in three killings, engaged in a shootout with authorities in the San Bernardino Mountains near Big Bear Lake, Calif., Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013.

(AP Photo/The Sun, Rachel Luna)

person in the cabin and officers around the home before the blaze began.

Until Tuesday, authorities didn't know whether Dorner was still near Big Bear Lake, where they found his burned-out pickup last week.

Around 12:20 p.m. local time Tuesday, deputies got a report of a stolen pickup truck, authorities said.

Thursday and not far from where Dorner's pickup was abandoned. The owner of the vehicle taken Tuesday described the suspect as looking similar to Dorner.

A warden for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife traveling down Highway 38 recognized a man who fit Dorner's description traveling in the opposite direction. The of-

was hit numerous times and the suspect escaped on foot after crashing his truck.

After holing up in the cabin, there was a second gunbattle with San Bernardino County deputies, two of whom were shot. One died and the other was expected to live after undergoing surgery.

"We're heartbroken," Big

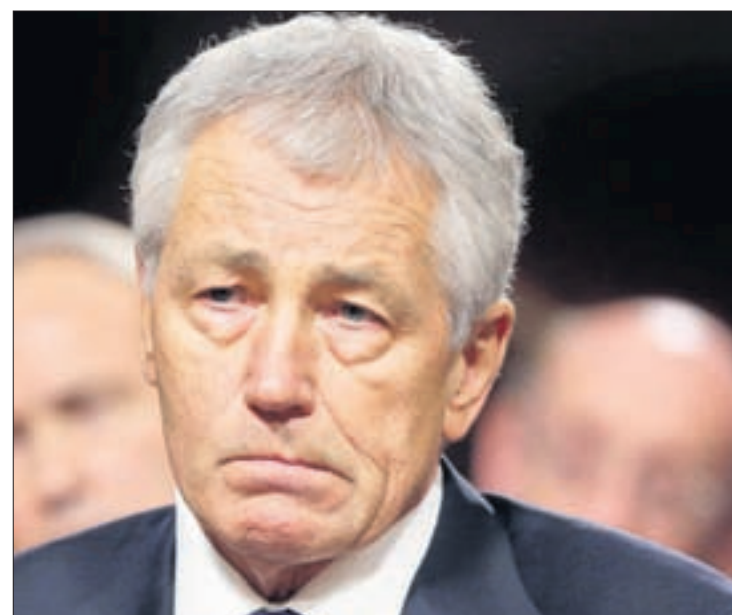
Senate panel approves Hagel for Pentagon chief

DONNA CASSATA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bitterly divided Senate panel on Tuesday voted to approve President Barack Obama's nomination of Chuck Hagel to be the U.S. defense secretary at a time of turmoil for the military with looming budget cuts, a fresh sign of North Korea's nuclear ambitions

and a withdrawal of U.S. forces in Afghanistan. The Armed Services Committee voted 14-11 to send the nomination to the full Senate, with all the panel's Democrats backing the president's choice to succeed Defense Secretary Leon Panetta. The committee's Republicans were unified in their opposition to their onetime

colleague, a former 12-year Republican senator and twice-wounded Vietnam combat veteran. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, a Democrat, said he would move ahead with a full Senate vote despite Republican complaints that he was "jamming it through." A vote is expected on Thursday, and barring any



Former Nebraska Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel, testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington.
(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

surprises, the Senate is likely to confirm Hagel for the president's second-term national security team.

Hagel, 66, would take charge of a military facing deep cuts in projected spending and challenges from North Korea, Iran and Syria.

Democrats, who hold a 55-45 edge in the Senate, have the numbers to confirm Hagel on a majority vote, but would need the support of five Republicans before a yes or no vote on the president's Cabinet choice would be allowed.

More than a dozen Republicans oppose the nomination, and the committee's top Republican, Sen.

Jim Inhofe, is insisting that any confirmation be based on 60 votes rather than a majority of the 100-member Senate.

But several Republicans reject what would be an unprecedented effort to delay a vote on a Cabinet nominee for defense secretary.

Hagel faces fierce opposition from Republicans who have challenged his past statements and votes on Israel, Iran, Iraq and nuclear weapons.

Just hours before Tuesday's vote, foes circulated a memo arguing for more information about Hagel's personal finances and highlighting past statements by Democratic senators demanding further disclosures when the Senate considered nominees by Republican presidents. □

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 - Dessert: Chocolate mousse with whipped cream
- ♥ **Cilo City Lounge**
 - 3 course menu \$65 per couple
 - Appetizer: Seasonal salad with marinated artichoke and grilled salmon served with sweet tomato salsa.
 - Entrée: Grilled tenderloin combined with mahi mahi severed with fried onion rings & creamy herb sauce with garlic.
 - Dessert: Valentine's strawberry heart.
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 - 3 course menu Afl. 110
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- ♥ **City Fashion & Gift Shop**
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Senate votes to expand domestic violence act



Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), center, during the weekly policy news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Feb. 12, 2013. On Tuesday, the Senate voted to renew the Violence Against Women Act. (Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

JONATHAN WEISMAN

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WASHINGTON – The Senate, with broad bipartisan support, voted overwhelmingly Tuesday to expand the reach of 1994's landmark Violence Against Women Act by fortifying the power of Native American courts and explicitly protecting gay victims of abuse. The 78-22 vote raised the pressure on the House to act and expanded by 10 votes the margin of approval that a nearly identical bill garnered in the Senate in April. Twenty-three Republicans backed the measure, up from 15 previously.

The vote came after 17 House Republicans on Monday wrote Speaker John A. Boehner of Ohio and Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia, the House majority leader, demanding immediate action on an anti-domestic violence bill that can get bipartisan support, unlike the House bill that passed largely on party lines last year.

The new version "must reach all victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in every community in the country," the letter stated, echoing the language used by supporters of the Senate bill, which expands the law's focus to include homosexual and Native American victims and as-

sailants. The law, reauthorized twice before with almost no controversy, has been stuck this time in the broader fight over the size and scope of government, and a more specific battle over the powers Congress should afford tribal courts, which now cannot pursue non-Indians who attack Native women on tribal land. Conservative groups like the Heritage Foundation and the Independent Women's Forum have blasted the law as an ineffective waste of money and the new version as a dangerous expansion of governmental powers.

"I never thought the day would come when this issue would become politicized, but I'm afraid it has," said Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, as he led the conservative opposition to the Senate bill.

But the 2012 election results – and the yawning gender gap that kept the White House in President Barack Obama's hands, expanded Democratic control of the Senate and chipped away at the Republicans' House majority – may have changed the political dynamics on the anti-violence bill.

"Quite honestly, we can't afford to be sitting on this for months or another year," said Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, a supporter of the Senate bill.

After the vote, Obama

called on the House to act. "Delay isn't an option

when three women are still killed by their husbands or boyfriends every day," the president said in a statement. "Delay isn't an option when countless women still live in fear of abuse, and when 1 in 5 have been victims of rape. This issue should be beyond debate – the House should follow the Senate's lead and pass the Violence Against Women Act right away. This is not a Democratic or Republican issue – it's an issue of justice and compassion." House Republican leaders find themselves squeezed between moderate – and many conservative – Republicans who want the Violence Against Women Act out of the way and senior Republicans who remain adamantly opposed. □

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Gun debate on Capitol Hill turns to constitutional issues

JENNIFER STEINHAUER
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WASHINGTON – The discussion on Capitol Hill over proposed new gun legislation turned Tuesday to the underlying constitutional issues around which the entire debate pivots. Scores of families whose loved ones were killed by gun violence – including some parents of children from Newtown, Conn., the site of a mass school shooting in December – packed a hearing room to watch the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights. Legal scholars, lawyers, gun rights advocates and others testified about the constitutionality of various proposals now being mulled by Congress, including the reinstatement

of an assault weapons ban.

“Some say that all we should do is enforce the laws on the books,” said Sen. Richard J. Durbin, D-Ill., the chairman of the subcommittee. He listed vari-

ous measures under consideration, including universal background checks for gun sales, enhanced tools to stem illegal straw purchasing, an assault weapons ban and limits on the capacity of some am-

munition magazines.

Durbin added, “All of these proposals are common sense. All of them have strong support among the American public. And all of them are clearly consistent with the Constitution and the Second Amendment.” Lawmakers tangled over the 2008 Supreme Court decision that struck down parts of the District of Columbia’s strict gun-control law, particularly the majority opinion that found gun rights “not unlimited.”

The interpretation divided along party lines. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, the ranking member on the subcommittee, summed up the position of other Republicans in his opening remarks.

“In my view the divide on this issue is fairly straightforward,” Cruz said. “The focus should be on criminals.” He said enhancing prosecutor’s tools, including possibly adding a new federal statute against straw purchasing, was a place for “potential bipartisan” support. “At the same time,” he said, “we should continue to respect and protect the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens.” Timothy J. Heaphy, the U.S. attorney

for the Western District of Virginia, was repeatedly questioned on the efficacy of current gun laws. When asked to weigh in on an assault weapons ban, which many gun rights advocates believe violates the spirit of the Supreme Court ruling because it bans, rather than limits, a specific category of firearms, said he believed such a ban passed the constitutional test. While the topics of the hearing varied from proposed legislation on mental health services in schools to the wisdom of carrying a gun in restaurants, much attention focused around the one area upon which there is an increasing bipartisan consensus: enhanced and increased background checks for gun buyers. Patching holes in the existing laws “are our best opportunity to keep firearms out of dangerous hands,” Heaphy said. Some Republicans expressed concerns about the wisdom of such enhanced laws – at one point Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., seemed deeply miffed that he might have to undergo a background check to buy a gun from Sen.□



Springettsbury, Pa., Police Chief Thomas Hyers holds a bullet at Girard College in Philadelphia, after a round table discussion on gun control with Vice President Joe Biden and other elected and law enforcement officials. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke)



Valentine's Day Menu

Appetizers

Bouillabaisse Soup
With shrimp, mussels, scallops, clams, fish and calamari in a saffron fish stock and tomato fume
Served with hummus and black olive tapenade
Amuse: Tagliatelle Pasta with Chardonnay and Basil

Mixed Greens with Black Truffle Dressing
Greens with slightly truffle vinaigrette and shaved parmesan cheese
Amuse: Spanakopita and Mango Coulis

Entrée

Pan Fried Sea-Bass with Couscous and aphrodisiac Coconut Sauce
Sea-bass served a top of couscous with coconut sauce and veggies
Or

Surf and Turf
4. Oz filet of beef tenderloin and sautéed shrimp with basil mashed potato, asparagus and lobster sauce

8. Oz Beef Filet Mignon Grilled To Perfection
With mushroom risotto and sweet potato chips

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2 Maryland students die in murder-suicide

TIMOTHY WILLIAMS
© 2013 New York Times

A University of Maryland student shot his two roommates, one fatally, early Tuesday before killing himself outside the house they shared near the College Park campus, authorities said. The men, who were students at the university, had been arguing at about 1 a.m. in the house’s front yard about a small fire that the gunman had started in the basement, according to the Prince George’s County Police Department. The house, in a residential area, is about one block from the campus. As the argument grew more heated, the gunman shot his roommates before walking to the back of the

house where he shot himself, said Julie Parker, a police spokeswoman.

The wounded student does not have life-threatening injuries, authorities said. The names of the students have not yet been released, but police said they had recovered a weapon they believe was used in the attacks.

The university made walk-in emergency counseling available for students who feel they need it.

Wallace D. Loh, the university’s president, said in a statement that “the University of Maryland community awoke this morning to heartbreak” but added that “together, we will emerge from our collective sadness.”□

January surplus shrinks 2013 US budget deficit



Congressional Budget Office Director Douglas Elmendorf is reflected on a table as he speaks about the office's annual Budget and Economic Outlook during a news conference at the Ford House Office Building in Washington. On Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013, the Treasury reported a rare surplus for January and is on track to run the lowest annual deficit since President Barack Obama took office. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

M. CRUTSINGER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government reported a rare surplus for January and is on track to run the lowest annual deficit since President Barack Obama took office.

The Treasury Department said Tuesday that the government took in a surplus of \$2.9 billion in January, helped by nearly \$9 billion more in Social Security taxes. Last month Congress and the White House allowed a temporary cut in Social Security taxes to expire.

The monthly surplus was the first since September. Through the first four months of the 2013 budget year, the deficit has grown \$290.4 billion. That's nearly \$60 billion lower than the same period a year ago. Revenue through those four months is 12.4 percent higher compared with the same period last year, while spending has grown only 3.5 percent.

The budget year began on Oct. 1.

The Congressional Budget Office forecasts that the deficit will total \$845 bil-

lion when the budget year ends on Sept. 30. If correct, that would be first time the government has run annual deficit below \$1 trillion since 2008.

The deficit is the amount the government must borrow when its expenses exceed its revenue. Each month's deficit is volatile and can be affected by calendar quirks that shift government spending or revenue from one month to another.

The annual deficit is projected to be smaller this year because the government is collecting more revenue this year, mainly because of faster job growth and higher taxes. At the same time, the government is spending less on some programs. That's in part because of spending cuts that were enacted under a 2011 agreement to raise the federal borrowing limit. Also, the improved economy has reduced demand for unemployment benefits and some other government programs.

Last year, the economy grew at a modest 2.2 percent and generated an average of about 180,000

jobs a month. Stronger job growth is forecast for this year — an average of more than 200,000 a month, some economists say. More jobs mean more income, which generates more tax revenue for the government.

Another factor in a smaller expected deficit is higher taxes for some Americans this year. When Congress and the White House reached a deal in Janu-

ary to avert the fiscal cliff, they allowed taxes to rise on individuals earning at least \$400,000 a year and couples earning \$450,000. That is expected to raise \$620 billion in revenue over the next decade.

And the agreement allowed a 2 percentage point cut in the Social Security tax to expire, thereby raising taxes on nearly everyone who earns a paycheck. This year's higher

Social Security tax is projected to raise about \$10 billion more a month in revenue.

The additional revenue is likely to slow the deficit's growth for the rest of the budget year. The deficit will also likely shrink in April, when the government collects much of its income-tax revenue. Last year, the government reported a surplus of \$59 billion for April. □

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UN Security Council condemns North Korea nuke test

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A united U.N. Security Council strongly condemned North Korea's nuclear test and pledged further action Tuesday, calling Pyongyang's latest defiant act "a clear threat to international peace and security."

All 15 council members, including North Korea's closest ally China, approved the press statement hours after the latest underground test. The statement called the atomic blast a "grave violation" of three

U.N. resolutions that ban North Korea from conducting nuclear or missile tests. The swift and unanimous response from the U.N.'s most powerful body set the stage for a fourth round of sanctions against Pyongyang.

The language in the statement, which pledged "significant action" in a new resolution, was stronger than the Security Council's initial reaction to North Korea's two previous nuclear tests and its most recent rocket launch. Diplomats said it reflects the growing anger at Pyongyang's



South Korea's Foreign Minister Kim Sung-hwan speaks at a news conference after the U.N. Security Council held an emergency meeting on North Korea's nuclear test on Tuesday morning at U.N. headquarters, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013. Left is South Korean Ambassador Kim Sook. (AP Photo/Craig Ruttle)

continuing defiance of the council and the sanctions resolutions.

How tough the new sanctions will be will depend largely on China, North Korea's main trading partner. China has voted for the three previous sanctions resolutions but has resisted measures that would cut off the country's economy completely. U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice said a number of new measures to tighten and expand the existing sanctions regime will be discussed with council members and other concerned countries in the coming days. She added in response to a question that financial sanctions would be "right for appropriate further action."

Tuesday's nuclear test followed a familiar North Korean pattern. Pyongyang conducted its first two nuclear weapons tests weeks after rocket launches in 2006 and 2009, and this third test followed a rocket launch in December that the U.N. and the U.S. called a cover for a banned long-range missile test.

The Security Council noted that last month, in a resolution that strengthened sanctions in response to the December missile test, its members promised to take "significant action" in the event of a new nuclear test. "In line with this commitment and the gravity of this violation, the members

of the Security Council will begin work immediately on appropriate measures in a Security Council resolution," the council said.

The statement was read by South Korea Foreign Minister Kim Sung-hwan, whose country holds the rotating Security Council presidency this month. South Korea was elected to the council for a two-year term starting in January. "North Korea will be held responsible for any consequences of this provocative act," Kim told reporters later. Rice called the test "highly provocative" and said the North's continued work on its nuclear and missile programs threatens regional and international peace and "the security of a number of countries including the United States."

"They will not be tolerated," she said, "and they will be met with North Korea's increasing isolation and pressure under United Nations sanctions."

"The U.N. Security Council must and will deliver a swift, credible and strong response by way of a Security Council resolution that further impedes the growth of DPRK's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs and its ability to engage in proliferation activity," Rice said, using the initials of the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. □

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APPETIZER
Sautéed Conch
OR
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ENTRÉE
Grilled Tenderloin
OR
Fresh Grouper fillet with Garlic Shrimps
& Menniere butter sauce

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UK food agency raids abattoir in horsemeat scandal

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British authorities on Tuesday raided a slaughterhouse and a meat processing company suspected of selling horsemeat labeled as beef for kebabs and burgers, shutting them down temporarily and seizing all the meat found.

It was the first time since the growing scandal broke across Europe that horsemeat being marketed as beef has been traced to suppliers in Britain, officials said, raising questions about how widespread the practice is.

Millions of burgers and frozen meals have been recalled around Europe and many accusations have been made, but so far it's not clear how horsemeat got introduced into so many beef products. French authorities have already pointed to an elaborate supply chain that involved Romanian butchers and Dutch and Cypriot traders that resulted in horsemeat disguised as beef being sold in meals like lasagna and moussaka to consumers around the continent.

Britain's Food Standards Agency said it suspended production at the Peter Boddy slaughterhouse in northern England's Yorkshire and a company it allegedly supplied horse carcasses to, Farmbox Meats, in west Wales. The agency

said it was investigating how "meat products, purporting to be beef for kebabs and burgers, were sold when they were in fact horse."

"It is shocking that we actually found this practice going on within the U.K.," Environment Secretary Owen Patterson said.

Horsemeat is largely taboo in Britain and Ireland, though in France it is sold in specialty butcher shops. While no health effects have been reported, the scandal has unsettled consumers and made clear that unscrupulous dealers in the complicated network of meat wholesalers are benefiting from selling much cheaper horsemeat as beef.

Peter Boddy, the owner of the slaughterhouse, said he would cooperate with police, while the BBC quoted a spokesman from Farmbox Meats as saying "there is nothing we have done here which is not totally permissible."

Food Standards Agency director Andrew Rhodes said the companies appeared to be involved in "blatant misleading of customers." He declined to speculate on how long such alleged fraud may have gone on, saying only that officials have seized documents — including customer lists — from the two venues and are investigating how much horsemeat was sold as beef to how many people.

Horses are slaughtered legally in abattoirs across Britain, and the meat is exported to countries where horsemeat is eaten.

Meanwhile, authorities on the continent have not established where the mislabeling of horse as beef occurred.

In Romania, food safety of-

ficials said Tuesday that the country produced 6,300 tons of horse, mule and donkey meat last year, and that it was correctly labeled when it was exported from 35 authorized plants to other European countries.

Romanian officials have said the fraud occurred somewhere else down the line.

In rural Romania, horses are sold from individual households to abattoirs, and each animal has four sets of documents before the meat is exported.

The manager of a Romanian slaughterhouse implicated in the scandal, Doly Com, defended his plant on Tuesday and tried to assuage buyers' concerns about his company's meat. □



Workers handle meat at the Doly-Com abattoir, one of the two units checked by Romanian authorities in the horse meat scandal, in the village of Roma, northern Romania, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013. On Monday, Romanian officials scrambled to defend two plants implicated in the scandal, saying the meat was properly declared and any fraud was committed elsewhere.

(AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda)

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And they're off: Papal campaigning gets under way

NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — It's a political campaign like no other, with no declared candidates or front-runners and a well-adhered to taboo against openly gunning for the job. But the maneuvering to select the next pope is already under way a day after Pope Benedict XVI stunned the world and announced he would retire on Feb. 28. One African contender declared Tuesday it was time for a Third World pope — and said he was free if God wanted him. Berlin's archbishop urged mercy for the victor, given the terrible weight of the office, while Mexico City Cardinal Norberto Rivera asked for prayers so that the best man might win. It's all part of the ritual of picking a pope, the mysterious process that takes place behind closed doors at the Sistine Chapel, where the "princes" of the church, the 117 or so cardinals under age 80, vote in next month's conclave. Once sequestered, they cast secret ballots until they

reach a two-thirds majority and elect a new leader of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics, sending up smoke signals from the chapel's chimney to tell the world if they have failed (black) or succeeded (white). In the run-up to the conclave, cardinals engage in a delicate dance, speaking in general terms about the qualities of a future pope and the particular issues facing the church. It's rare for anyone to name names, much less tout himself as a candidate. If asked, most cardinals routinely invoke the refrain: "He who goes into a conclave a pope comes out a cardinal." Such genteel public platitudes, however, belie the very real factions within the College of Cardinals that determine the outcome of the vote. Just because the cardinals all wear the same red cassock and recite the same prayers doesn't mean they all think alike. They have different visions of what the church needs, different views on critical issues and different allegiances: geographical,



A statuette depicting Pope Benedict XVI carrying a suitcase and holding up a sign reading in German "Auf Wiedersehen" (goodbye), is seen in a shop in Naples, Italy, Feb. 12, 2013. Benedict XVI on Monday announced that he will resign on Feb. 28 - the first pontiff to do so in nearly 600 years. (AP Photo/Salvatore Laporta)

In an interview with The Associated Press inside his Vatican offices, Turkson said the "young churches" of Africa and Asia have now become solid enough that they have produced "mature clergymen and prelates that are capable of exercising leadership also of this world institution." Catholics in the developing world don't need a pope from their region to thrive, he said. They have done just fine, growing exponentially with European pontiffs. But Turkson, who heads the Vatican's justice and peace office, said a pope from the global south would "go a long way to strengthen them in their resolve." Whether Turkson would have a shot at the papacy, though, is an open question. Last year he screened an alarmist video at a meeting of the world's bishops, warning of the inroads Islam is making in Europe and the world.

He apologized, but the gaffe may have cost him a chance at the papacy. Even Vatican Radio called the film a "4-year-old, fear-mongering presentation of statistics" that have been widely debunked. For his part, Venezuelan Cardinal Jorge Urosa said he hopes the next pope comes from Latin America, home to 40 percent of the world's Catholics. □

sentimental and theological. And this time around, it seems geography is very much front and center, at least in the public debate that was in full swing Tuesday, the first day of the conclave campaign. One

of Africa's brightest hopes to be the next pope, Ghanaian Cardinal Peter Turkson, said the time was right for a pontiff from the developing world, and that he's available for the job "if it's the will of God."

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Egypt women protest sex assault at site of attacks



A female Egyptian activist holds a knife while taking part in a protest for women against sexual harassment and against the Islamist dominated Shura Council blaming women for the attacks against them, in Cairo, Egypt, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013. (AP Photo/Nasser Nasser)

AYA BATRAWY
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Washington's envoy on human rights cautioned Tuesday against the failure of Egypt's government to identify the perpetrators behind a growing number of gruesome attacks against female protesters, as nearly 1,000 women gathered in Cairo to denounce the recent sexual assaults.

Beating drums and blowing whistles, the women defied advice by some lawmakers that suggested their presence in Tahrir Square, the focal point of

protests, was the reason for the mob attacks.

"A woman in the square is a revolution, but your words Afifi are shameful," read one banner in response to Adel Afifi, a member of the Islamist-dominated interim parliament, who said this week that women are subjecting themselves to attacks by mixing with men in unsafe places.

While sexual harassment of women has long been a problem in Egypt, dozens of violent attacks have been reported specifically in and around Tahrir Square since the fall of longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak two

years ago. Hundreds of unidentified men have taken part in attacks on women, ripping their clothes off, touching them and, in one case, raping a 19-year-old with a blade.

The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Michael Posner, criticized what he said was the failure of Egypt's criminal

justice system to identify and bring to justice perpetrators "involved in an alarming number of rapes and other acts of violence against women."

In meetings with Egyptian officials, including the foreign and justice ministers, as with well as one of the president's advisers and the nation's top cleric, Posner said he expressed

Washington's concern that the rights of women are not being prioritized alongside other key issues such as transparency, rule of law and building a better climate for civil society.

"The road to democracy and stability in Egypt must be a peaceful one," Posner told reporters in Cairo. "There can be no turning back to the past." □

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Seafood Chowder

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or

Lump Crab with Tomato Napoleon

Drizzled with sweet balsamic vinegar

Main Course

Lemon Herb Crusted Sea-Bass paired with Seared Tenderloin

Lemon ginger sauce and bordelaise sauce

Custard potato and slow roasted tomatoes

or

Pepper Crusted Filet Mignon

Gently crust filet on both sides with crush black pepper seared to your perfection served with pepper sauce, roasted tomatoes and custard potato

or

12.oz Grilled Veal Chop

with Wild Mushroom Timbale, Asparagus and Quinoa Rice

or

Crispy Salmon Filet

with Shrimp Risotto and Roasted Garlic Mojo

Dessert

Chocolate Surprise with Strawberry Chocolate

or

Pineapple Granite with Vanilla Ice Cream

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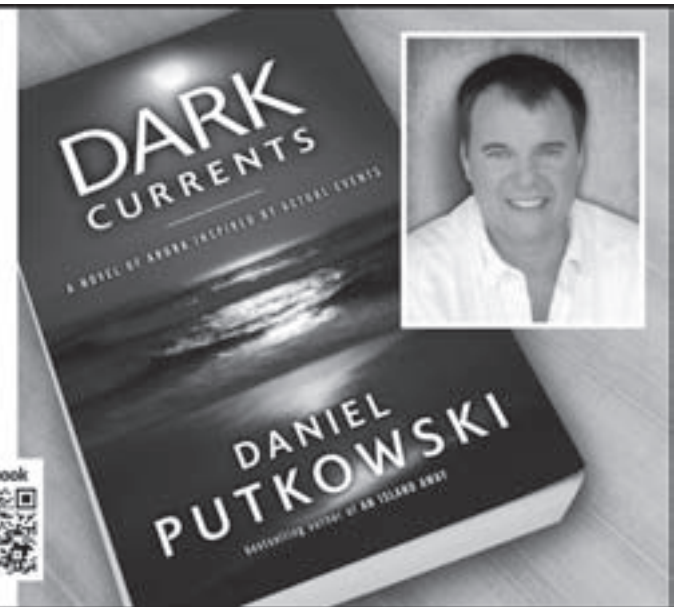
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Struggling Caribbean islands now selling citizenship

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Hadi Mezawi has never set foot on the Caribbean island of Dominica, has never seen its rainforests or black-sand beaches. But he's one of its newest citizens.

Without leaving his home in the United Arab Emirates, the Palestinian man recently received a brand new Dominican passport after sending a roughly \$100,000 contribution to the tropical nation half a world away.

"At the start I was a little

worried that it might be a fraud, but the process turned out to be quite smooth and simple. Now, I am a Dominican," said Mezawi, who like many Palestinians had not been recognized as a citizen of any country. That passport will help with travel for his job with a Brazilian food processing company, he said by telephone from Dubai.

Turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa has led to a surge of interest in programs that let investors buy citizenship or residence in countries around the world

in return for a healthy contribution or investment. Most are seeking a second passport for hassle-free travel or a ready escape hatch in case things get worse at home.

Nowhere is it easier or faster than in the minuscule Eastern Caribbean nations of Dominica and St. Kitts & Nevis.

It's such a booming business that a Dubai-based company is building a 4-square-mile (10-square-kilometer) community in St. Kitts where investors can buy property and citizenship at the same time. In its first phase, some 375 shareholders will get citizenship by investing \$400,000 each in the project, which is expected to include a 200-room hotel and a mega-yacht marina. Others will get passports for buying one of 50 condominium units.

"The more they fight over there, the more political problems there are, the more applications we get here," said Victor Doche, managing director of another company that offers four condominium projects where approved buyers are granted citizenship in St. Kitts, which is less than twice the size of Washington D.C.

It's impossible to say how many people have used the cash for citizenship programs. Officials in both countries declined to respond when asked by The Associated Press.

"Why do I have to speak on that?" said Levi Peter, Dominica's attorney general. "I have no explana-

tion to give to AP."

But Bernard Wiltshire, a former Dominica attorney general, said there were already around 3,000 economic citizens when he left government about a decade ago. The country



A young boy watches a waterfall in Dominica. Global turmoil has led to a surge in programs that let investors buy citizenship or residence in countries, such as in Dominica, in return for a healthy contribution or investment. (Handout Photo)

now has roughly 73,000 inhabitants in all.

"Investor visa" or citizenship programs are offered by many nations, including the United States, Canada, Britain and Austria. But the Caribbean countries offer a fast path to citizenship at a very low cost. The whole process, including background checks, can take as little as 90 days in St. Kitts. And there's no need to ever live on the islands, or even visit.

A foreigner can qualify for citizenship in St. Kitts with a \$250,000 donation to a fund for retired sugar

workers or with a minimum real estate investment of \$400,000. The minimum contribution in Dominica is \$100,000.

By contrast, a U.S. program allows visas for a \$1 million investment in a U.S. business employing at least 10 people or \$500,000 in designated economically depressed areas. The investor can apply for permanent residence in two years, and seek citizenship after five more. Demand in Canada is so great that the country stopped accepting new applications in July.

A Dominica passport holder can travel without a visa to more than 50 countries, while a St. Kitts passport provides visa-free travel to 139 countries, including all of the European Union. That's a big deal to people in countries from which travel is restricted or whose passports are treated with suspicion.

Critics say the programs undermine the integrity of national passports and have security risks. While there are no known cases of terrorists using the programs, experts say that's a possibility with many visa arrangements anywhere.

"No level of scrutiny can completely guarantee that terrorists will not make use of these programs, just as background checks cannot eliminate the risk that dangerous individuals will not enter the country (the U.S.) on tourist visas, as students or as refugees," said Madeleine Sumption, a senior policy analyst at the Washington-based Migration Policy Institute. □

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PALM BEACH - Castello Banfi's Michela Dominici, Sommelier and Key Ambassador to the World for Banfi Estate hosted an exceptional Wine Pairing Dinner at the elegant AAA 4-Diamond rated Sunset Grille, Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa recently, with many locals and visitors in attendance. Dominici also hosted a series of wine seminars in collaboration with Raymond Rivera, Banfi's Export Manager and Clive Faustin the resident Wine Artist of Romar Trading, the local purveyor of fine wines and spirits.

The Radisson's culinary experts, inspired by Castello Banfi delivered a marvelous evening, taking diners on a tasting voyage of the most wonderful wines chased by a delectable five-course menu.

The Italian-accented dinner took off with a Trio of Tomato, Chicken and Prosciutto Bruschetta, followed by hearty Shrimp Fra Diavolo. The third course, a traditional Veal Parmigiana, was pursued by a Grilled Top Sirloin with Cremini mushrooms, on a bed of Fettuccini Primavera. For dessert, a Pistachio Brittle Cheesecake was served with a mixed berry sauce.

Dominici, enchanted by the food and the service at the restaurant shared that she started at the legendary winery fifteen years ago, fresh from a Florence university, where she graduated in the English, French and German languages, not knowing anything about wine, but as the castle was conveniently close to her home, she was hired by the wine shop, where she became an expert on the castle's products, evolving into the global ambassador of the brand. As she loves travelling for the company, she criss-crossed Italy and Europe and just ventured into the Caribbean for the first time for a twelve day training trip to Aruba and Puerto Rico.

According to Dominici the wait staff she encountered on the island is very well trained and professional and she was totally impressed by the Radisson's executive chef Kien Fat Lie Kwie and by owner-chef Vittorio, of Hostaria da Vittorio, with whom she collaborated on special winery events.

Pictured here some of the evening's highlights at the Sunset Grille ☺





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PALM BEACH - Some in these words some in other words but with same honesty and same sentiment are recommending The Blue Lobster Restaurant to friends, family and acquaintances, with no doubt, for these clients are so sure recommending The Blue Lobster Restaurant will not let their friends and themselves down. Some tell the owner Mr. German. ... you did a good move by adjusting your prices to be more on the low side, and still keeping the same food quality and service.

Many are the clients coming back to repeat the same good dining experience they had last year, and brought their friends and family to make them acquainted with this wonderful culinary experience. By now 60% of The Blue Lobster Restaurant's business comes from repeat guests, while the other 40% are first timers.

Many reasons for these high figures, still word of mouth is the best advertising one can have, and is The Blue Lobster's main costumer generating



source.

The next reason is the friendly and professional service, The Blue Lobster's seal of guarantee, and last but not least, the great value for the money.

We have been told that constant promotions and specials are Blue Lobster's strategy to maintain its clients interested in keep on coming back, for it is very difficult to find a good restaurant with excellent food and still get a good bargain.

For example was confirmed that right now there is the best

promotion ever. On Wednesdays and Saturdays you can get APPETIZER, MAIN DISH, DESSERT PLUS ONE BOTTLE OF HOUSE WINE PER TABLE FOR UNDER \$37.00 PER PERSON.

A repeat visitor commented that he did not know about this promotion but still was granted to him and his family and was fully informed to them upon being seated last Saturday.

His wife enjoyed a great 8Oz Lobster tail; His son took a Lobster termidor. He himself



not much of a lobster lover was surprised with a 16 Oz T-BONE STEAK. While his daughter was very happy she chose a combo of lobster- shrimp and grouper.' What a feast,' he said, 'and for a real good price too.'

'The Blue Lobster will be high in our list of 'Must Visit' restaurants when we come back to Aruba,' concluded this happy customer.

Talking to the staff it was a pleasure, for the first enthusiastic and dedicated person we found was The restaurant supervisor Ms. HAIDY SCHEEPERS a great believer of The Blue Lobster's mission, already working at this magnificent restaurant for over a year, next Ms Michelle, great worker compiling the most best comments from the clients she takes care of. Offering a great sincere smile always, Ms. Arienne, preparing wonderful cocktails and the specialty of the house, THE BLUE MOJITO. Then Mr. Luis, an eager and positive young waiter bringing to The Blue Lobster his experience acquired while working at several important restaurants in USA and at one of the most important social clubs from Colombia. Luis said being very proud to have served a president (The Colombian President). Luis is a graduate from EPI school in Aruba.

In the Kitchen a great crew starting with The MICHELIN EXPERIENCED International Chef Sandro, orchestrating a symphony of good food with an

out-of-this-world presentation. Where ARTUR, MARIO, CARLOS and ALBITA are the heart of the operation by making sure the quality and presentation of The Blue Lobster's food comes with the already well known high standards.

This Valentines' Day 2013 will go in history as the best Valentines' Day for many couples and friends who decide to visit The Blue Lobster Restaurant. For this will be a special day, and a very special menu will be waiting.

APPETIZER, MAIN DISH, DESSERT, AND A BOTTLE OF FRENCH CHAMPAGNE OR HOUSEWINE will become the Lover's Package for this special date. Under 37 bucks per person.

But this does not end there... said Mr. Castano. On this Valentines' Day, ladies will receive a surprise gift at the end of the dinner (or lunch) while the gentleman will receive a secret card where they must write a beautiful thought about his couple. This secret card will be kept by the supervisor and delivered to the lady at the end.

Of course ladies will be welcomed with a BEUTIFUL RED ROSE.

So THE BLUE LOBSTER never stops surprising its clientele. With so much going on at THE BLUE LOBSTER missing this restaurant while in Aruba would be a real shame. So don't miss it... go there and have fun, and an unforgettable experience! □

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Lisa & Jessy

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Maria Sharapova of Russia returns the ball during her match against Caroline Garcia of France on the second day of the WTA Qatar Ladies Open in Doha, Qatar, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013.

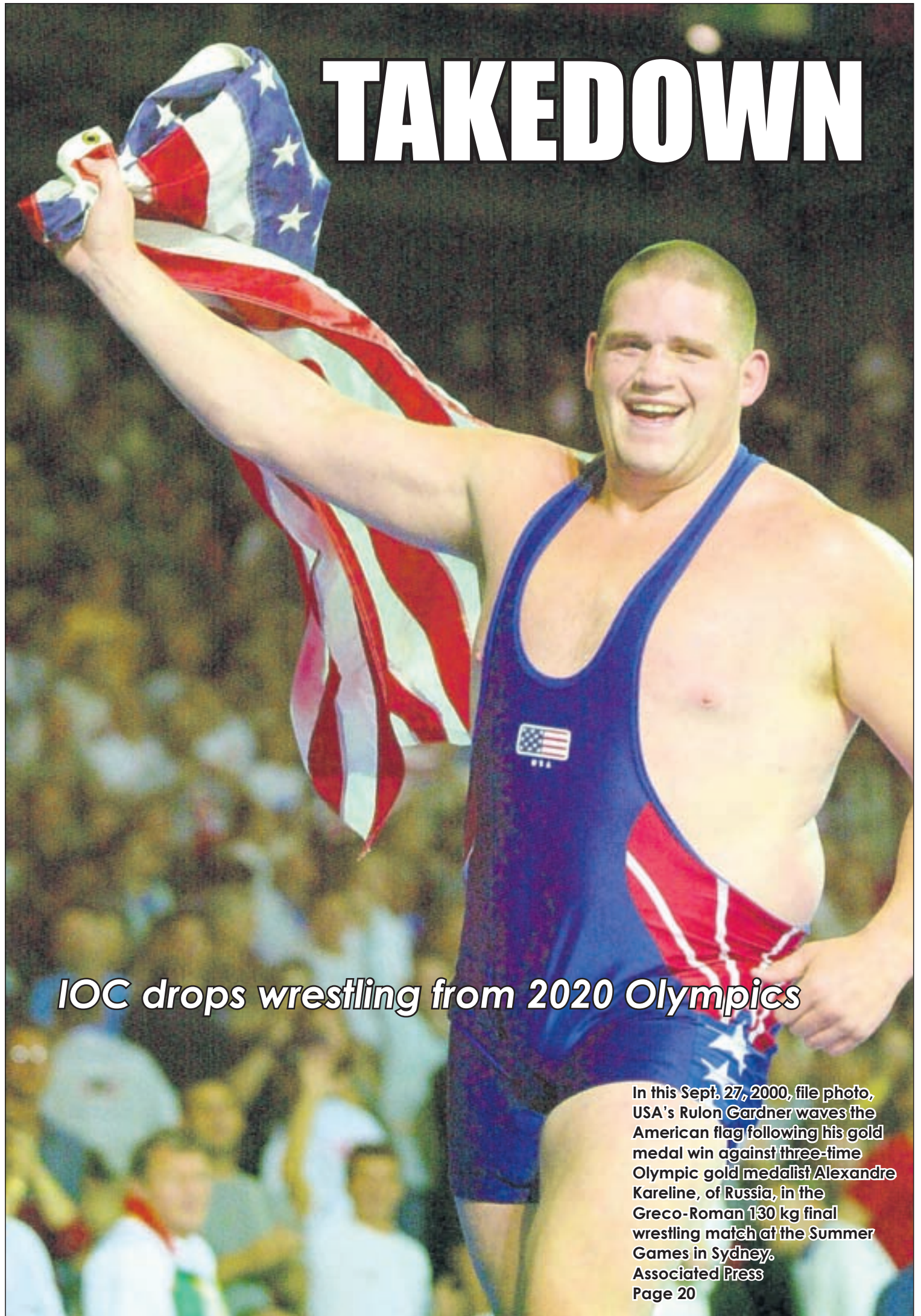
Associated Press

Williams, Sharapova into third round in Doha

MICHAEL CASEY
AP Sports Writer

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova easily reached the third round of the Qatar Open on Tuesday, dominating their opponents with straight-set victories. Williams, who will regain the No. 1 ranking if she reached the semifinals, showed no signs of the back or ankle problems that troubled her at the Australian Open during her 6-2, 6-1 win over Russian qualifier Daria Gavrilova. Williams broke the Russian to go up 4-2 in the first set and then jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the second. Williams then saved five break points before serving out the match when the 160th-ranked Gavrilova hit a forehand long.

Continued on page 18



TAKEDOWN

IOC drops wrestling from 2020 Olympics

In this Sept. 27, 2000, file photo, USA's Rulon Gardner waves the American flag following his gold medal win against three-time Olympic gold medalist Alexandre Kareline, of Russia, in the Greco-Roman 130 kg final wrestling match at the Summer Games in Sydney.
Associated Press
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Doha

Continued from page 17

The third-ranked Sharapova, who won the tournament in her two previous appearances, downed French qualifier Caroline Garcia 6-3, 6-2.

Sharapova broke the 172nd-ranked Garcia twice go up 3-0 in the first set.

Garcia won the next two games but Sharapova then broke for a third time. The second set went with serve through the first five games until Sharapova broke to go up 4-2, and she clinched the victory when the Frenchwoman hit a forehand long.

"I was quite happy with the way I played, because my opponent has already played a few matches here so she's been able to get in that match atmosphere," Sharapova said. "So I wanted to start really strong. I had a tough



Serena Williams of the U.S. returns the ball during her match against Daria Gavrilova of Russia on the second day of the WTA Qatar Ladies Open in Doha, Qatar, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013. Associated Press

match against her in my previous encounter where I played three sets. I really wanted to start better this time as opposed to last time."

Sharapova was joined in the third round by 11th-ranked Marion Bartoli, who downed former French Open champion Francesca Schiavone 7-6 (5), 6-3.

The loss leaves Schiavone, who has fallen to 54th in the rankings, winless in four matches this year. The Italian had the upper hand early, racing out to a

4-1 lead. But Bartoli turned things around, saving five break points to make it 4-2 breaking back in the next game when Schiavone doubled faulted. She then decided the tiebreaker with a return winner.

After trading breaks early in the second set, Bartoli took advantage of Schiavone's errors to go up 4-2. She closed out the match when she chased down a volley and fired a backhand winner down the line. "The first set was extremely tough," Bartoli said. "It was a hard battle. I knew from coming from indoor clay court I wouldn't play my best tennis for the first 30 minutes. ... But I felt I really fought really hard on the court. I didn't show any frustration."

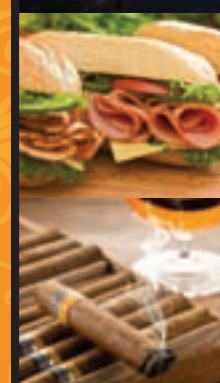
The only seeded player to lose Tuesday was No. 12 Maria Kirilenko of Russia, who retired with a right shoulder injury against fellow Russian Ekaterina Bychkova after falling behind 3-0. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

NHL Capsules

Blue Jackets go wild, wallop Sharks, 6-2

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Brandon Dubinsky had a goal and an assist and the Columbus Blue Jackets had their biggest offensive output of the season against the NHL's stingiest defense in a 6-2 victory over the San Jose Sharks on Monday night.

James Wisniewski and Nikita Nikitin added goals, Cody Goloubef picked up his first NHL goal and Vinny Prospal and Mark Letestu tied a franchise record by scoring 8 seconds apart in the third period. Nick Foligno and Matt Calvert each had two assists.

Columbus scored 43 seconds into the game, added two goals 1:11 apart in the second period and

then scored three goals in the opening 5:45 of the final period.

Patrick Marleau and Joe Pavelski scored for the Sharks, who have lost five in a row after a 7-0 start.

HURRICANES 6, ISLANDERS 4

UNIONDALE, New York (AP) — Alexander Semin netted his 200th NHL goal, Jiri Tlustý scored twice and had two assists, and Carolina scored four third-period goals and overcame three deficits to send New York to its fifth straight loss.

Semin got help on his milestone goal as his shot from the right-wing boards hit the helmet of Islanders defenseman Travis Hamonic and caromed off the post

past goalie Rick DiPietro at 5:33 of the third period.

Carolina tied it 3-3 just 30 seconds into the third when Semin fed a pass to Tlustý for his first goal. Eric Staal scored at 9:09 to make it 5-3, and Tlustý added an empty-netter with 10.3 seconds remaining to give him a four-point night.

Former Islander Tim Wallace and Jeff Skinner also had goals for the Hurricanes, who are 3-1-1 on a trip that ends Tuesday at New Jersey.

Matt Moulson scored two goals and Frans Nielsen and John Tavares had a goal apiece for New York. MAPLE LEAFS 5, FLYERS 2 TORONTO (AP) — Colton



Columbus Blue Jackets' Jared Boll, left, and San Jose Sharks' Matt Pelech (42) fight during the first period of an NHL hockey game, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013, in Columbus, Ohio. Boll set a team record of 120 fights.

Associated Press

Orr and Matt Frattin scored goals 28 seconds apart in the second period and Toronto got its second victory in six games at home this season.

Dion Phaneuf, Clarke MacArthur and James van Riemsdyk, against his former team, also scored for

Toronto.

But the win came at a cost. James Reimer stopped 12 shots before being replaced by Ben Scrivens early in the second period with what appeared to be a left leg injury.

Continued on page 21

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Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Body slam for wrestling: Sport cut from Olympics

STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

LAUSANNE, Switzerland
(AP) —

For wrestling, this may have been the ultimate body slam: getting tossed out of the Olympic rings.

The vote Tuesday by the IOC's executive board stunned the world's wrestlers, who see their sport as popular in many countries and steeped in history as old as the Olympics themselves.

While wrestling will be included at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, it was cut from the games in 2020, which have yet to be awarded to a host city.

2004 Olympic Greco-Roman champion Khasan Baroev of Russia called the decision "mind-boggling." "I just can't believe it. And what sport will then be added to the Olympic program? What sport is worthy of replacing ours?" Baroev told the ITAR-Tass news agency. "Wrestling is popular in many countries — just see how the medals were distributed at the last Olympics."

American Rulon Gardner, who upset three-time Russian Olympic champion Alexander Karelin at the Sydney Games in an epic gold-medal bout known as the "Miracle on the Mat," was saddened by the decision to drop what he called "a beloved sport."

"It's the IOC trying to change the Olympics to make it more mainstream and more viewer-friendly instead of sticking to what they founded the Olympics on," Gardner told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from Logan, Utah.

The executive board of the International Olympic Committee reviewed the 26 sports on its summer program in order to remove one of them so it could add one later this year. It decided to cut wrestling and keep modern pentathlon — a sport that combines fencing, horse riding, swimming, running and shooting — and was considered

to be the most likely to be dropped.

The board voted after reviewing a report by the IOC program commission report that analyzed 39 criteria, including TV ratings, ticket sales, anti-doping policy and global participation and popularity. With no official rankings or recommendations contained in the report, the final decision by the 15-member board was also subject to political, emotional and sentimental factors.

"This is a process of renewing and renovating the program for the Olympics," IOC spokesman Mark Adams said. "In the view of the executive board, this was the best program for the Olympic Games in 2020. It's not a case of what's wrong with wrestling; it is what's right with the 25 core sports."

According to IOC documents obtained by the AP, wrestling ranked "low" in several of the technical criteria, including popularity with the public at the London Games — just below 5 on a scale of 10. Wrestling sold 113,851 tickets in London out of 116,854 available.

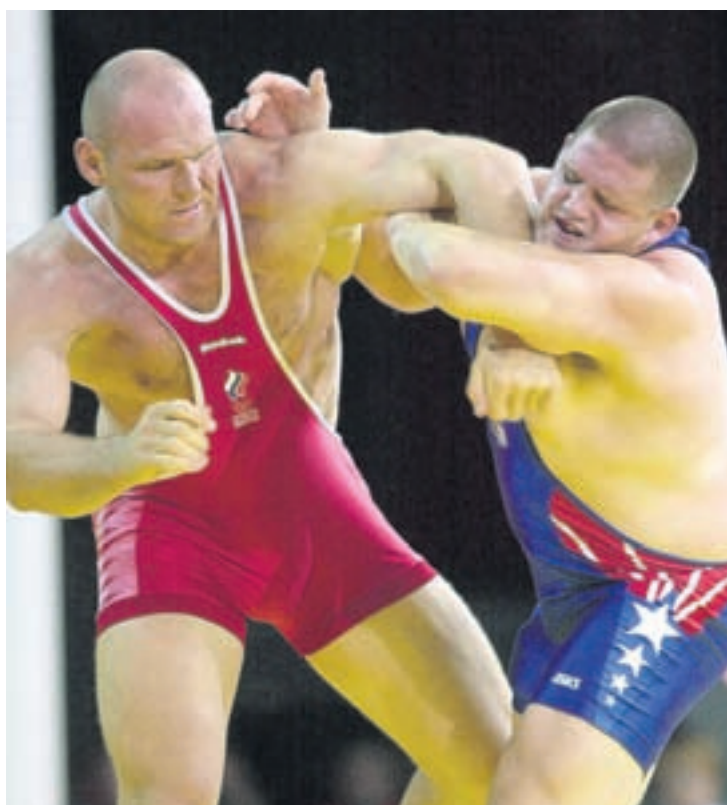
Wrestling also ranked "low" in global TV audience with a maximum of 58.5 million viewers and an average of 23 million, the documents show. Internet hits and press coverage were also ranked as low.

The IOC also noted that FILA — the international wrestling federation — has no athletes on its decision-making bodies, no women's commission, no ethics rules for technical officials and no medical official on its executive board.

Modern pentathlon also ranked low in general popularity in London, with 5.2 out of 10. The sport also ranked low in all TV categories, with maximum viewership of 33.5 million and an average of 12.5 million.

FILA has 177 member nations, compared to 108 for modern pentathlon.

Modern pentathlon, which



In this Sept. 27, 2000 file photo, Rulon Gardner, right, of the United States, holds the arm of Alexander Karelin of Russia during the final bout in the 130 kg class of Greco-Roman wrestling event at the Summer Olympic Games in Sydney.

Associated Press

has been on the Olympic program since the 1912 Stockholm Games, was created by French baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic movement.

It also benefited from the work of Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr., the son of the former IOC president who is a UIPM vice president and member of the IOC board.

"We were considered weak in some of the scores in the program commission report but strong in others," Samaranch told the AP. "We played our cards to the best of our ability and stressed the positives."

Klaus Schormann, president of governing body UIPM, lobbied hard to protect his sport's Olympic status and it paid off in the end.

"We have promised things and we have delivered," he said after Tuesday's decision. "That gives me a great feeling. It also gives me new energy to develop our sport further and never give up."

The IOC executive board will meet in May in St. Petersburg, Russia, to decide which sport or sports to propose for 2020 inclusion. The

final vote will be made at the IOC session, or general assembly, in September in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Wrestling will now join seven other sports in applying for 2020, but it is extremely unlikely that it would be voted back in so soon after being removed by the executive board.

The other sports vying for a single opening in 2020 are a combined bid from baseball and softball, karate, squash, roller sports, sport climbing, wakeboarding and wushu, a martial art.

"Today's decision is not final," Adams said. "The session is sovereign and the session will make the final decision." Wrestling featured 344 athletes competing in 11 medal events in freestyle and seven in Greco-Roman at last year's London Olympics, with Russia dominating the podium but Iran and Azerbaijan making strong showings. Women's wrestling was added to the Olympics at the 2004 Athens Games.

Tuesday's decision came via secret ballot over four rounds, with 14 members voting each time on which sport should not be included in the core group. IOC President Jacques Rogge

did not vote.

Three sports were left in the final round: wrestling, field hockey and modern pentathlon. Eight members voted against wrestling and three each against the other two sports. Taekwondo and canoe kayaking survived the previous rounds.

"I was shocked," said IOC board member Rene Fasel of Switzerland.

"It was an extremely difficult decision to take," added IOC Vice President Thomas Bach of Germany. "The motivation of every member is never based on a single reason. There are always several reasons. It was a secret vote. There will always be criticism, but I think the great majority will understand that we took a decision based on facts and for the modernization of the Olympic Games."

Wrestling was featured in the first modern Olympics in Athens in 1896. Along with Russia's Karelin, it has produced such American stars as Gardner, Bruce Baumgartner, Jeff Blatnick and Jordan Burroughs.

U.S. Olympic Committee CEO Scott Blackmun also expressed surprise at the IOC decision, citing "the history and tradition of wrestling, and its popularity and universality."

"It is important to remember that today's action is a recommendation, and we hope that there will be a meaningful opportunity to discuss the important role that wrestling plays in the sports landscape both in the United States and around the world," Blackmun said in a statement. "In the meantime, we will fully support USA Wrestling and its athletes."

FILA said in a statement that it was "greatly astonished" by the decision, adding that the federation "will take all necessary measures to convince the IOC executive board and IOC members of the aberration of such decision against one of the founding sports of the ancient and modern Olympic Games." □



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NBA Capsules

Mullens, Bobcats end Celtics' win streak 94-91

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Byron Mullens had 25 points and 18 rebounds, and the Charlotte Bobcats defeated Boston 94-91 Monday night to snap the Celtics' seven-game winning streak.

Kevin Garnett had 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Celtics, but missed a key 18-footer that would have given Boston the lead late in the game. Paul Pierce and Avery Bradley had chances to send the game into overtime in the final seconds, but missed open 3-pointers.

Ramon Sessions had 19

points for the Bobcats, including the go-ahead jumper from 18 feet with 25.7 seconds left. Kemba Walker had 18 points, six assists and six rebounds, and Gerald Henderson chipped in with 16 points. Charlotte snapped a seven-game skid. Jeff Green had 18 points for the Celtics and Paul Pierce finished with 13 points, eight assists and eight rebounds.

TIMBERWOLVES 100, CAVALIERS 92

CLEVELAND (AP) — Luke Ridnour scored 21 points, Ricky Rubio added 13 and 10 assists and Min-

nesota snapped an eight-game road losing streak. Ridnour dropped a critical 3-pointer with 1:43 left for the banged-up Timberwolves, who hadn't won on the road since Jan. 3 — star center Kevin Love's last game before he was lost indefinitely with a broken hand.

Nikola Pekovic added 16 points and 10 rebounds as Minnesota ended a four-game losing streak and improved to just 4-16 since losing Love.

Kyrie Irving scored 20 points and Tristan Thomp-



Charlotte Bobcats' Byron Mullens (22) holds onto the ball as Boston Celtics' Paul Pierce (34) falls on him during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Charlotte, N.C., Monday, Feb. 11, 2013. Associated Press

son had 16 for the Cavs, who were within 82-81 in the fourth before Ridnour sparked a 10-2 run by the Timberwolves. Ridnour had 13 points in the final 12 minutes.

CLIPPERS 107, 76ERS 90 PHILADELPHIA (AP) —

Chris Paul had 21 points and 11 assists, Blake Griffin scored 20 points and the Clippers cruised past Philadelphia.

Jamal Crawford also scored 20 points and Matt Barnes had 11 for the Pacific Division-leading Clippers. □

NHL Capsules

Continued from page 19

Scrivens finished with 32 saves.

Wayne Simmonds and Tye McGinn scored for Philadelphia.

KINGS 4, BLUES 1

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Jeff Carter scored twice for the first time since the Stanley Cup clincher, helping Los Angeles keep slumping St. Louis down.

Brian Elliott made 19 saves in a surprise start for the Blues a day after Jaroslav Halak was activated from injured reserve.

Jonathan Bernier was solid with 21 saves in just his second start of the season for the Kings.

Davis Drewiske made it 3-0 at 13:22 of the second period with his first goal of the season on a power play and Jarrett Stoll's second

goal of the season that made it 4-1 early in the third.

Alex Steen scored on a power play in the final minute of the second for St. Louis with Andy McDonald earning his 300th career assist.

COYOTES 3, AVALANCHE 2 DENVER (AP) — Shane Doan scored his second goal of the game at 4:01 of overtime and Mike Smith stopped 41 shots, helping Phoenix rally for the win over slumping Colorado.

With time winding down, Avs defenseman Greg Zanon tried to clear the puck from behind his net, but it hit a referee's stake in the corner and bounced to Kyle Chipchura. He quickly passed it over to a wide-open Doan, who shot it over the shoulder of Semyon Varlamov.

Oliver Ekman-Larsson scored the game-tying

goal for the Coyotes midway through the final period as the team won for the fourth time in five games. Mark Olver and Matt Duchene had goals for the Avalanche, who had four days of rest but still dropped their third straight.

WILD 2, FLAMES 1, SO CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Mikko Koivu scored the winner in the shootout and Minnesota got its first road victory of the season.

With each team having scored once in the shootout, Koivu sped in on Leland Irving and made a sharp move to his forehand to beat the Flames goaltender.

Alex Tanguay was then stopped by the pad of Niklas Backstrom, sending Calgary to its eighth straight shootout defeat.

Kyle Brodziak scored late in the second period for Minnesota.



St. Louis Blues' Ian Cole, right, is slammed against the boards as he chases a loose puck alongside Los Angeles Kings' Kyle Clifford during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013, in St. Louis. The Kings won 4-1. Associated Press

Jiri Hudler scored early in the third period for Calgary, which opened up a three-game homestand with the first in a stretch of six games in 10 days.

In other NHL games it was

Minnesota 2, Calgary 1, SO; Toronto 5, Philadelphia 2; Carolina 6, N.Y. Islanders 4; Columbus 6, San Jose 2; Los Angeles 4, St. Louis 1; and Phoenix 3, Colorado 2, OT. □

Cholesterol, the Good and the Bad

In the past they would kill the messenger who delivered news that king did not want to hear. Tough job, fortunately, this doesn't happen today. Or does it? With the declaration of helping patients, doctors try to eliminate your body signs (messages) with drugs. When consulting an allopathic doctor the first thing investigated is to see if you have a disease. If not, they may test your blood and identify values that they think will cause a disease. With higher than normal cholesterol numbers, cholesterol lowering drugs are frequently prescribed. Is this the best thing to do? Could it be that the remedy may be worse than the disease?

Cholesterol lowering drugs, known as statins are proving to be killers. Documents indicate some senior executives of German pharmaceutical maker Bayer, knew its anti-cholesterol drug Baycol was causing illness and death long before pulling it off the market. It produces a side effect called rhabdomyolysis which causes severe pain and muscle weakness. Serious cases can shut down the kidneys and cause paralysis or death. During other drug studies, test patients have committed suicide. In fact, suicide is a stated possible risk from taking cholesterol lowering medicine. Why? Lipoproteins, which are attached to cholesterol, provide a means by which toxins including, heavy metals, solvent toxins, pesticides, and

petro-chemicals can be removed from your brain and nerves. As cholesterol falls, less lipoproteins are available lowering your body's ability to remove these poisons.

For natural physicians, cholesterol is not bad. Hydroxy sterols are found in both animal and plant life. Cholesterol, a complicated form of alcohol is the main sterol of higher life forms. With the exception of brain and red blood cells, all cells in your body are capable of synthesizing or producing cholesterol. Cholesterol provides strength for cell walls; a way to use other sterols and every day, cholesterol is converted into bile acid, which helps protect from and dissolve gall stones.

In your blood stream cholesterol contains lipoproteins. These proteins carry antioxidants such as vitamin E, beta carotene, and CoQ10 that help protect you from cancer. When cholesterol is naturally low or forced low with drugs, cancer risks rises because protection is reduced.

When a clinical nutritionist sees a high test value for cholesterol we look to see what caused your body to increase cholesterol to help protect your brain and nerves. If fat-soluble poisons are present, changing what you do or don't eat can help remove these "bad fats." With the poison gone, cells stop making excess cholesterol for protection.

So what don't we eat? Don't eat sugar, especially

alcohol or any of the growing number of products with high fructose corn syrup. Stop all fried, salty, refined or processed foods, fatty dairy products or fatty meats. When we tell patients this, many tell us we have just eliminated everything they eat. In fact we have just described the Standard American or Aruban Diet (SAD).

Ok, what do we eat? Fresh fruits and vegetables, lean meats, but not pork, whole grains like brown rice oats or quinoa, a Peruvian supergrain. Wheat is not the best choice for many people because of allergies and gluten intolerance. Fish that swim constantly in deep water are loaded with "good" HDL cholesterol which is needed to manufacture some very wonderful hormones, like sex hormones. Medicinal oils packed with HDL include: olive, evening primrose, black currant, flax, safflower and soy. Herbs that lower LDL/triglycerides (bad cholesterol) are Shiitake mushrooms, cayenne, ginger, cat's claw, garlic and turmeric.

"Good cholesterol" producing foods which include essential fatty acids (EFA) rich in Omega 3, 6 and 9 in the correct proportions have changed with modern diets. Most of us are not getting enough Omega 3's and some of us are not getting enough of omega 3 and 6. Supplementing with Flax oil or Omega fish oils is more important than ever. Lecithin is good oil I consider a basic, especially for



protecting the brain. Make sure you only use fish oils certified to be free of toxins like Mercury.

Eat smaller meals, especially before bed. While you sleep, the stomach also sleeps and food does not digest properly. Want to get all this under control quickly? Eat only brown rice for three weeks. Nothing else! Include lots of water and moderate exercise. It's always best to do a cleansing diet like this with the supervision of a clinical nutritionist.

Get the point! Not all cholesterol is bad. Cholesterol lowering drugs and their known side effects are not the only choice. We need good cholesterol to protect our brains and nerves. Changes in diet and lifestyle can naturally help control not only "bad" cholesterol, but you might find improvement with symptoms of high blood pressure, arthritis, and diabetes. Call us for a full evaluation of the good and the bad of your health. Let us

teach you how to turn the "ugly" into "beautiful!"

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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Yahoo CEO plans to prune company's mobile apps



In this Friday, Jan. 25, 2013, file photo, Marissa Mayer, CEO of Yahoo!, listens during the 43rd Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum, in Davos, Switzerland. Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

— Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer thinks the Internet company will be able to please more people with fewer smartphone applications.

Mayer told an audience of investors during a Tuesday presentation that she thinks Yahoo will be better served with just 12 to 15 mobile applications, down from a "scattered" portfolio of as many as 75 different programs in recent years.

Offering so many different mobile applications has proven too overwhelming for Yahoo's 200 million mobile users, Mayer said. By jettisoning some mobile applications and combining some elements in the same program, Mayer is betting Yahoo's services will become more deeply

ingrained as daily habits that will "delight and inspire" users.

"We don't want to overload people by expecting them to download too many distinct, individual apps," Mayer said. Without saying so directly, she indicated that Yahoo is likely to concentrate its mobile apps on finance, sports, email, weather, entertainment, news and video. Her remarks came during her first appearance at an investment conference since she ended her 13-year career as a top Google Inc. executive to become Yahoo's CEO seven months ago.

Mayer, 37, mostly stuck to themes she has mentioned in previous conference calls with analysts to discuss Yahoo's quarterly earnings. She has consis-

tently stressed that Yahoo needs to come up with a better mobile strategy and hire more engineers specializing in applications for smartphones and tablet computers, to accelerate the company's growth.

Yahoo Inc., based in Sunnyvale, Calif., was stuck in a financial funk that caused its stock price to steadily sink until Mayer's arrival. The shares have surged by 36 percent since Mayer became CEO and, on Tuesday, touched their highest level in more than

four-and-half years in a show of Wall Street faith in Mayer. The stock closed at \$21.21 Tuesday, up 31 cents.

Yahoo picked up more mobile engineering expertise Tuesday with the acquisition of Alike, the maker of an app that helps people find nearby restaurants and other places that they might enjoy. It's the fourth small deal that Mayer has pulled off as Yahoo's CEO. All of the acquisitions have been of startups staffed by a group of employees that Mayer wanted to add to

Yahoo's workforce.

"We have to augment the engineering talent we already have and build more," she said.

Mayer also assured investors that she is setting quarterly goals that all employees will be expected to meet as Yahoo tries to build upon a 2 percent increase in net revenue last year. Although paltry, the gain ended a three-year slump in Yahoo's annual revenue.

"We grade ourselves as honestly and as brutally as we can," Mayer said. □



SPECIAL

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dressed with your choice of dressing

Second Course

SOUP OF THE DAY
home made

Third Course

STEAK DIANE
with sauteed mushrooms tomatoes and herbs

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Comcast to buy GE's 49 pct stake in NBCUniversal

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Cable TV operator Comcast said Tuesday that it's buying General Electric's 49 percent stake in the NBCUniversal joint venture for \$16.7 billion several years early, as the company takes advantage of low borrowing costs and what CEO Brian Roberts called a "very attractive price."

The company is also buying from GE such assets as NBC's headquarters at 30 Rockefeller Plaza in New York and CNBC's headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, for about \$1.4 billion.

At the same time, the company said it would raise its annual dividend 20 percent to 78 cents per share and buy back \$2 billion in shares this year.

Comcast shares jumped \$2.93, or 7.5 percent, to \$41.90 in after-hours trading. GE shares rose 76 cents, or 3.4 percent, to



The NBC logo glows in neon lights among other iconic signs at its headquarters in New York. Comcast said Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013, that it's buying General Electric's 49 percent stake in the NBCUniversal joint venture for \$16.7 billion several years early, as the company takes advantage of low borrowing costs and what CEO Brian Roberts called a "very attractive price."

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

\$23.34.

Comcast Corp. had bought a majority stake in

the television and movie company in 2011. It had planned to take a larger

stake in it over seven years, paying for it from operating cash, starting in July 2014.

But Roberts told The Associated Press that the sale of its stake in pay TV network A&E and some wireless spectrum gave it plenty of cash on hand.

He also says Comcast got a good deal given that the stock price of media conglomerates has been rising. "We thought that we would have to pay more later," he said.

In a statement, Roberts added that "our decision to acquire GE's ownership is driven by our sense of optimism for the future prospects of NBCUniversal and our desire to capture future value that we hope to create for our shareholders."

The new deal is expected to close by the end of March.

Comcast had bought a 51 percent stake in NBC Universal,

home of the NBC television network, from General Electric Co. for \$13.8 billion in cash and assets. It came after the government approved Comcast's takeover of NBCUniversal with conditions intended to prevent it from keeping NBC programming to itself at the detriment of other cable operators and video websites.

Comcast, which is based in Philadelphia, is the largest U.S. cable TV operator with 22 million subscribers. Besides the television network, NBCUniversal runs such cable channels as CNBC, MSNBC and Bravo, the Universal Pictures movie studio and theme parks. In the deal, Comcast paid General Electric just under \$6.2 billion in cash and contributed its pay TV channels such as E! Entertainment Television and The Golf Channel, worth \$7.25 billion, to NBC Universal. □

Iceland shipping group adds Maine to route

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)

— An Icelandic shipping company has agreed to establish container freight operations in Portland in a move that will link Maine's largest city to eastern Canada and Europe and restore the port's on-again, off-again cargo shipping service.

Eimskip, or the Icelandic Steamship Co., signed a contract with the Maine Port Authority to have a container cargo ship stop in Portland every 14 days, providing Maine businesses import and export opportunities to and from Canada and Europe. Gov. Paul LePage announced

Tuesday. As part of the arrangement, Eimskip is partnering with Pan Am Railways to offer cost-competitive rail access to North American markets.

Eimskip said Portland will replace Norfolk, Virginia, as a port of call on its cargo route at the end of March. The goal is to shorten the transit time between North America and Europe.

"Maine's economy will be strengthened by this new service and accessibility to markets," LePage said in a statement. "Maine produces some of the best products in the world and this investment by Eimskip is a testament to that quality."

Eimskip said Portland is well-positioned to handle its operations with its International Marine Terminal, which is equipped with a 100-ton mobile crane and electrical outlets for refrigerated cargo containers. The company plans to operate a warehouse and office in Portland.

Portland has been without container cargo service since last spring, when a New York-based company ended service that linked Portland, Boston and Halifax, Nova Scotia.

In a press release announcing the new service in Portland, Eimskip said it has 49 offices in 17 countries and operates 17 vessels. □



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Dow closes at 2013 high, flirting with record

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Dow rose to its highest close of the year, putting it within 1 percent of its record. Stocks gained after impressive results from two big consumer brands. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 47.46, or 0.3 percent, to 14,018.70 Tuesday. That is 146 points from its record close of 14,164.53 set in October 2007. The Standard & Poor's 500 gained 2.42 points to 1,519.43, also close to its record. In a quiet day of trade, stocks were driven higher by beauty products maker Avon and luxury clothing and accessories company Michael Kors, whose results impressed investors. Consumer spending accounts for 70 percent of economic activity in the U.S. Financial and home building stocks also lifted stocks, led by Bank of America and Masco Corp, which notched some of the day's biggest gains. The Dow has surged at the start of the year, logging its best January in almost two decades, after lawmakers reached a last-minute deal to avoid the "fiscal cliff" of sweeping tax increases and spending cuts. Investors are also becoming more optimistic that the housing market is recovering and that hiring is picking up. The Dow has now ad-

vanced 7 percent this year, and the S&P 500 is up 6.6 percent.

The 30-member Dow has now closed above 14,000 twice this month. Before February, the index had closed above that level just nine times in its history. The first time was in July 2007; the rest were in October of that year.

Avon's stock price jumped \$3.51, or 20 percent, to \$20.79 after the company posted a fourth-quarter loss that wasn't as bad as analysts expected. The company also hopes to save \$400 million by slashing costs. Michael Kors rose \$5, or 9 percent, to \$62 after reporting earnings that beat analysts' predictions. Bank of America was the biggest gainer on the Dow, adding 38 cents, or 3.25 percent, to \$12.24. Stocks gaining in the index outnumbered those falling by a ratio of more than four to one.

Two stocks rose for every

one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange. Trading was lighter than the recent average at 3.3 billion shares.

About 70 percent of companies in the S&P 500 have

according to S&P Capital IQ.

Investors may have become too optimistic about the outlook for stocks, said Uri Landesman, president of hedge fund Platinum

the S&P 500 will climb past its record and rise as high as 1,600 by April before then slumping as low as 1,300 as company earnings start to disappoint investors. The record close for the S&P 500 is 1,565, reached in October 2007. Investors appear to be supporting the market by stepping in to buy stocks when prices dip, said JJ Kinahan, chief derivatives strategist at TD Ameritrade. The S&P 500 has gained for six straight weeks since the start of the year.

Confidence in the outlook for global growth has strengthened among asset managers in recent months, according to a Bank of America Merrill Lynch survey. The poll found that 59 percent of investors believe that the global economy will strengthen in the year ahead, in line with the reading in January. The outlook for growth had improved in the four previous months. □



On an otherwise up day on Wall Street, Coca-Cola, the world's largest beverage company, fell \$1.05, or 2.7 percent, to \$37.56 after reporting Q4 revenue that fell short of analysts' forecasts, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013.
(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

reported earnings for the fourth quarter. Analysts are projecting that earnings will rise 6.4 percent for the period, an improvement from the 2.4 percent growth reported in the third quarter,

Partners.

"The market is priced for perfection," said Landesman. "The odds of a disappointment are very, very high."

Landesman predicts that

US job openings, total hiring down in December

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers advertised fewer jobs in December and cut back on hiring, suggesting many were cautious at the end of the year.

Job openings dropped 4.6 percent in December from November to 3.62 million, the Labor Department said Tuesday. No-

vember's openings were revised higher. Employers hired 4.2 million Americans, a 4.8 percent drop and the fewest in a year. One positive sign: Employers cut just 1.57 million jobs, the fewest layoffs on records dating back to 2001. Still, those looking for work face stiff competition. About 12.2 million people were unemployed in December.

That means there were 3.4 unemployed people, on average, competing for each open job. In a healthy economy, the ratio is roughly 2 to 1. The Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey, also known as JOLTS, calculates total hiring, layoffs and quits. That's different from the department's monthly jobs report, which measures the unem-

ployment rate and net hiring. Net hiring is total hiring minus layoffs, quits and other separations. The JOLTS data will likely be revised significantly next month based on comprehensive tax records. Similar revisions were made to the government's monthly employment report and showed much stronger hiring at the end of last year. □

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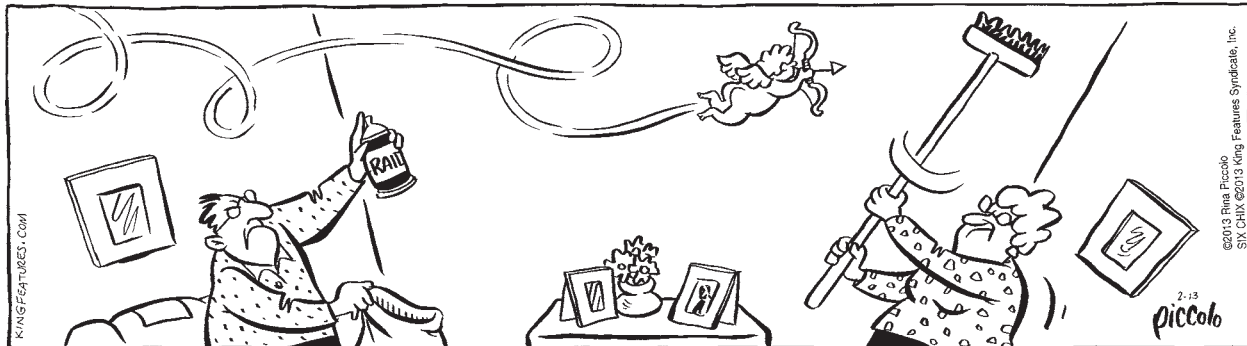


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Mutts



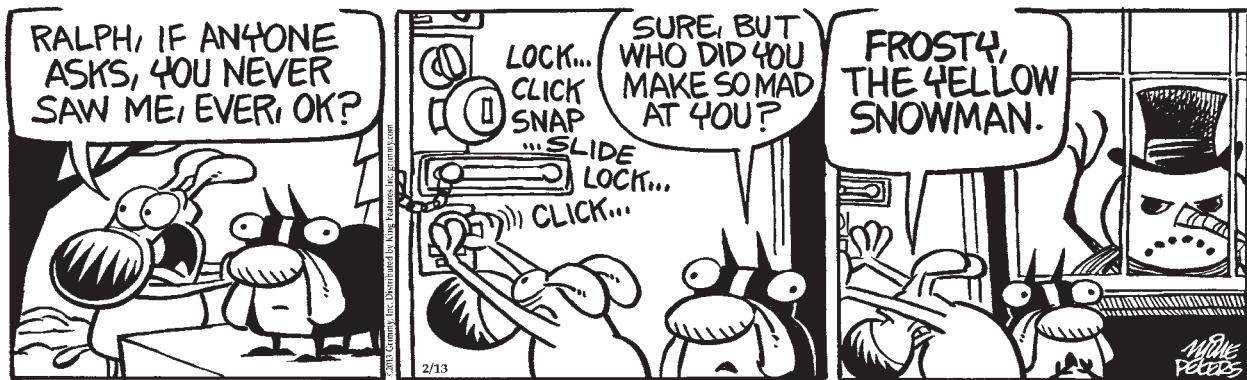
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	3	4	6				7	8
		5	3	8		4	9	
				4		5		
			4	9	2			
	7					3		
2	6		5				8	
7							4	
	2	9	8				5	
			2	7			1	

Difficulty Level ★★★

2/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

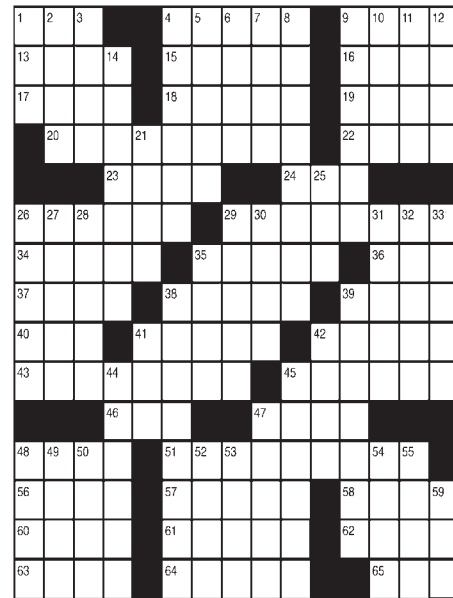
6	2	8	9	1	4	3	7	5
7	3	9	5	2	8	6	1	4
1	5	4	6	3	7	9	2	8
4	1	7	2	6	3	5	8	9
2	9	6	1	8	5	7	4	3
5	8	3	7	4	9	1	6	2
9	6	1	4	5	2	8	3	7
8	7	2	3	9	1	4	5	6
3	4	5	8	7	6	2	9	1

ACROSS

- 1 Family man
4 Synagogue leader
9 Heavy-coated dog, for short
13 Intensive care ; ICU
15 Grown-up
16 Solitary
17 Coveter's sin
18 Cherish dearly
19 Zone
20 Ninth month
22 Disguise
23 Holbrook and Linden
24 Hubbub
26 Thread holders
29 Soak
34 Burnett or Channing
35 Remained optimistic
36 Wally or Courteney
37 Pres. Chester Arthur
38 Flooring pieces
39 Sand mound
40 Permit
41 Sandwich cookies
42 Spud
43 Actor Richard
45 Most tender to the touch
46 "___ all Greek to me"
47 ___ over; think deeply about
48 Ash or spruce
51 Exciting
56 Actor James ___ Jones
57 Pass off as genuine
58 Shipshape
60 Very interested
61 Racer Al ___ Jr.
62 Gust
63 Olin & Norton
64 Suspicious
65 ___ away; fled

DOWN

- 1 Outstanding, as a bill
2 Landers and Richards
3 Headfirst plunge
4 Becomes unwoven
5 Pres. John ___
6 Tulip planting
7 Navy or azure
8 Repeats
9 Noise
10 Jewish wedding dance
11 Singles
12 Feeble
14 Tropical cyclone
21 ___ tale; unlikely story
25 Failure
26 Burn with liquid
27 Less vibrant in color
28 Give a speech
29 Flies alone
30 Ridicules
31 Like a sharp pain
32 Musical sounds



Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews

2/13/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

SANE	MEALS	SWAT
LION	ISLET	PAGE
ODOR	SPINE	ODES
PENALTY	TIDIEST	
	GAS	RENAL
STREW	TAN	TEACH
TROD	PEN	JERSEY
RIB	PEACHES	CAP
UTOPIA	HOT	NOSE
METAL	TEE	BITER
	RECUR	CUB
TREASON	FUMBLES	
IANS	NICER	LIME
ERGO	GNATS	EMMA
DELL	AGREE	SAYS

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2/13/13

- 33 Put forth effort
35 Rushes
38 Unsuspecting
39 Sweetheart
41 Many a time
42 Bridge
43 crosser's fee
44 Gives in
45 Hot and humid
47 Money hoarder
48 Yellowish wood
49 Talk wildly
50 Actress Moran
52 Sharpen
53 Ascend
54 Within reach
55 Festivity
59 Half a score

Classifieds

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Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

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Fire Dept.	115
Fire Dept. II	582-1108
Police Tipline	11141
Hospital	527-4000

Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Police	582-4000

San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Police Station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

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Professional Taxi	588-0035
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Service Aruba	583-3232

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Zimbabwe faces crayfish crisis in water ecosystem

ANGUS SHAW

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)

— Scientists in Zimbabwe say a fresh water crayfish brought from Australia is breeding out of control in the northern Lake Kariba, devouring the food sources of other fish and putting the nation's entire aquatic ecosystem at risk.

Officials at the Zimbabwe University lakeshore research station say the red claw crayfish, introduced a decade ago for a fish farming project, has no natural predators in the wild — crocodiles don't like them — and they produce clusters of eggs up to half the size of a tennis ball that hatch prolifically.

Baby crocodiles still feeding on insects have been observed eating the crayfish, as have Lake Kariba's piranha-like tiger fish, but they generally thrive in deeper water than the crayfish.

Chief ecologist Crispin Phiri said the exploding, migrant crayfish population is infesting rivers, dams, ponds and tanks much farther afield where "the scavenger eats everything —rotting vegetation, anything organic and micro-organisms" that other aquatic life and fish need. The red claw crayfish, scientifically *Cherax Quadricarinatus* and known colloquially in Australia as the yabby, is robust and hardy and cannot be poisoned without killing other natural species, Phiri said.

It survives and multiplies in virtually any fresh water supply and though its flesh is high in protein it is not popular in the diet of ordinary Zimbabweans, even those facing food shortages in the troubled economy.

Phiri said it is not clear



In this photo taken Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013 an unidentified man holds a red claw crayfish at a local fish shop in Harare, Zimbabwe. Associated Press



In this photo taken Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013, a red claw crayfish is seen in a tank at a local fish shop in Harare, Zimbabwe. Associated Press

whether the sister crayfish, or *Cherax Destructor*, is infesting Lake Kariba, too. As its scientific name suggests, it is a burrower which can cause structural damage to drainage and hydroelectric installations in Kariba, one of the world's largest manmade lakes stretching about 300 kilometers (200 miles) on

the Zambezi River along the northern border with neighboring Zambia. Like professionals in most Zimbabwean institutions, the scientists are suffering acute shortages of funding. The station's only research vessel has been docked for more than five years awaiting cash for repairs. What the ecologists do know is that the red claw migrates deep into river systems.

"We have to do a lot more work on the crayfish invasion," Phiri told The Associated Press.

"We don't know yet what will happen to the ecosystem. It is an omnivore and eats detritus, rotting

vegetation, dead fish, the eggs of bream and other aquatic life as well as all the organisms that are crucial in the whole ecological chain," he said.

Nor is it known exactly how many crayfish are in Kariba lake. Phiri says they are most visible breeding unchecked close to human settlements, harbors and slipways for boats. Kariba's "kapenta" fish, a tiny tropical whitebait or sardine that has become a staple food, was also introduced into the lake but does not migrate because it only lives in deep water lake conditions. The red claw from Australia was first "farmed" in neighboring Zambia but has already found its way deep into that country's lake tributaries where its worrying impact is also being urgently tracked.

The solution to the crayfish crisis, said Phiri, seems to lie in commercial exploita-

tion in traps similar to those used to catch marine lobster.

In stores in Harare, it sells for \$9 a kilogram (2.2 pounds), \$12 still alive in fish shop aquariums, and far more in upmarket restaurants patronized by the wealthy well-traveled elite and Zimbabwe's growing Chinese community.

Phiri said impoverished villagers capture the red claw and relocate to water closer to urban markets in central Zimbabwe.

Neighboring South Africa has banned commercial operations and breeding of the still water crustacean in Argentina, Mexico and Australia is strictly controlled for environmental reasons. "We don't have the resources on the ground to license or police exploitation on the right scale at Kariba," said Phiri. "The important thing is we don't want people to introduce it elsewhere." □

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And the Oscar for Best Nap Time goes to ...

LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Nancy Zwiers was genuinely psyched to see "Lincoln," but something happened between the ticket purchase and the credits. Off screen, that is.

"Yes, I fell asleep," confessed the 54-year-old. "I only have two clear memories of the movie: a bunch of old white guys sitting around talking and Sally Field in a perpetual state of angst."

That was shortly after its release in October. Fast forward to January, and a dozen Academy Award nominations for the 150-minute epic and another accolade has emerged: nap worthy, with and without apologies to Steven Spielberg and Daniel Day-Lewis.

Movie napping is almost certainly as old as cinema itself. It strikes the overtired and the well-rested, film nuts and occasional theatergoers. Some blame it on soporific popcorn. Others on the enveloping darkness and a comfy seat. The theater is too hot. The theater is too cold, too crowded, not crowded enough ...

Any which way, cinematic snoozing seems near epidemic proportions this awards season with buzz with extra ZZZs for "Lincoln," the 157-minute sung "Les Misérables," the 169-minute "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" and others cited as good for a snore, but not always due to extra minutes.

Forget the theory that movie watchers of a certain age are more heavily afflicted.

"I don't realize I do it and I wake up 20 minutes later and then everyone's, like, you were asleep," said Rose Liu, 31. "I snore and then it's embarrassing, but I really can't control it. I wake up and I'm re-energized!"

Liu has movie dozed on dates and out with friends, some of whom have nudged her awake at the request of strangers sitting nearby.

She, too, was done-in by "Lincoln." She's not a fan, but she also caught some shuteye during the two-hour "Argo," which she liked. A power napper in regular life and a moviegoer about once a month, Liu acknowledged it would make sense to avoid late screenings, but that's usually not possible.

Count psychologist Jennifer Thomas, 43, as a nap person outside of theaters and in. With four kids at home, she watches a lot on Netflix but gets out to the theater about once every three months.

Thomas decided to take in "Life of Pi" in 3D on the recommendation of friends who enjoyed the book. In a rare moment of parenthood, Thomas was alone — in the dark, in a cushy seat.

"It was somewhere with the boat and the water and the lion, and they had settled into the story, and I just had this feeling that, 'I'm just going to listen to the movie for a while and I'm just going to close my eyes,'" she recalled of her 15-minute break from the

largely symbolic action.

Who among us hasn't been there, at least once? Collin Roberts has seen four of the nine films nominated for a best picture Oscar: "Argo," "Beasts of the Southern Wild," "Life of Pi" and "Lincoln," the latter definitely not her thing but a favor to her husband.

"The soliloquies started. That was something I didn't know about Lincoln, his tendency to give long-winded speeches at inappropriate times. The elderly lady next to me fell asleep and started snoring softly and before I knew it, I was nodding off, too," she said. Entertainment Weekly has dubbed this the most thrilling race for Oscar in years, but the length of some contenders has earned attention. Over at "Saturday Night Live," a recent skit suggests the next two "Hobbit" movies morph into 18 instead, including "The Elf Queen Tries to Pick an Outfit."

The writers at SNL included this mock review from film critic Peter Travers: "I fell asleep for 45 minutes and when I woke up the



This July 20, 2012 file photo shows a wide awake crowd watching the premier of "The Dark Knight Rises" inside the Liberty Science Center IMAX theater in Jersey City, N.J. Associated Press

dwarves were assembling an Ikea dresser."

In real life, Travers liked parts of the Lord of the Rings prequel but hated the whole 48 frames a second thing and thought an hour could have been chopped. The Internet is heavy with lists of all-time snoozer movies, but rarely is one season so full of them, or so say the nappers.

Tadd Rosenfeld gets plenty of sleep and rarely naps outside of movie theaters. He's in catch-up mode on Oscar nominees and said his last in-theater snooze

was "The Dark Knight Rises," the latest in the Batman franchise released in July. It won a dozen awards, including one of the American Film Institute's movies of the year and a Hollywood Film Award. Most of his friends loved it.

"But to me it was simply restful. It lost my attention almost straight away, and as my eyelids felt heavier and heavier, I just relaxed into a lower sitting position in the chair, allowing the colorful scenes to unfold as I drifted pleasantly away," Rosenfeld said. □

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Alec Baldwin, wife expecting a baby late this summer

NEW YORK (AP) — Alec Baldwin and his wife are expecting their first child together. Publicist Matthew Hiltzik confirmed Tuesday that Hilaria Baldwin is due late this summer. Alec Baldwin already is the father of a 17-year-old daughter, Ireland, from his previous marriage to actress Kim Basinger. Hilaria Baldwin is a special correspondent for the TV show "Extra." The couple wed last June after a three-month engagement. Alec Baldwin recently won a SAG Award for best actor in a TV series for the NBC comedy "30 Rock," which



This Dec. 20, 2012 file photo released by Nokia shows Hilaria Thomas, left, and actor Alec Baldwin at the Nokia "30 Rock" wrap party in New York. Associated Press concluded its seven-year run two weeks ago. □

Lady Gaga unable to walk, postpones 4 shows



This Dec. 15, 2012 file photo shows singer Lady Gaga performing at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Lady Gaga says she's "heart-sick" to postpone four shows after sustaining an injury that's left her unable to walk. A Tuesday news release says performances set for Feb. 13-14 in Chicago, Feb. 16 in Detroit and Feb. 17 in Hamilton, Ontario, Cana-

da, have been postponed. Gaga took to Twitter to explain, saying she injured herself during a performance some time ago and her condition has worsened, leaving her immobile following Monday's concert in Montreal. She's been hiding the injury from her staff, but can no longer perform. "I've been hiding a show injury and chronic pain for sometime now, over

the last month it has worsened," she wrote. "I've been praying it would heal." Neither Lady Gaga nor the news release specifies what the injury is. The remainder of the "Born This Way Ball" tour is expected to continue on schedule, beginning with a two-night stand in Philadelphia on Feb. 19-20. Makeup dates for the missed shows will be announced later. □

Penelope Cruz having 2nd baby with Javier Bardem

MADRID (AP) — Penelope Cruz and Javier Bardem are expecting their second child. Cruz publicist Javier Giner told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the Spanish actress is pregnant. He declined to provide any further details, including when the baby

is due. The 38-year-old Cruz and 43-year-old Bardem had their first child, a boy called Leo, in January 2011. The couple became romantically involved after appearing together in Woody Allen's 2008 film "Vicky Cristina Barcelona" and later married. □

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A Secretary Setting



TIMOTHY EGAN
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The emperor of the American outdoors usually wears a cowboy hat, for the lashing dust and searing sun in the domain of the Interior Department, which is one-fifth of the United States. James Watt, the most small-minded head of that agency in modern times, wore one. So did Ken Salazar, the outgoing secretary.

Don't expect to see Sally Jewell, who is President Barack Obama's nominee for Interior secretary, in a showy Stetson. Running shoes, yes. Climbing helmet, of course. Cycling tight, no doubt. If confirmed, Jewell would be one of the few directors of that vast department to actually share the passions of the majority of people who use the 500 million acres of public land under Interior's control.

It's not just that Jewell has climbed Mount Rainier, kayaked innumerable frothy waterways, skied and snowboarded double-diamond runs. Nor that, as chief executive of the nation's largest consumer cooperative — Recreational Equipment Inc., the retailer known as REI — she knows that Americans spend more money on outdoor equipment than they do on pharmaceuticals or gasoline. But Jewell — a city-dweller, educated, articulate about the importance of nature in a modern life — is a prototypical citizen of the 21st-century American West, still the geography of hope, in Wallace Stegner's timeless phrase.

"It feels so nice to get a little mud on your feet, a little mist in your face," she said not long ago, after a winter hike near her home in Seattle.

For all the ranchers and wildcatters, the loggers and right-wing county commissioners who clamor for control of the nation's public lands, the dominant user is an urbanite, who bikes, skis, rafts, climbs, hunts, fishes, watches birds, waits for sunsets with a camera or finds an antidote for "nature deficit disorder" in a weekend on a high plateau.

Yet this silent majority is taken for granted. Obama, following the ravaged path of George W. Bush, has made it easy for oil and gas drillers to industrialize huge swaths of land that are owned by every citizen. About 6 million acres have been leased to drillers in the last four years; a total of 44 million acres are under lease now.

Bush made oil and gas drilling his No. 1 priority for Interior's lands.

Obama has not significantly altered that course.

"We are drilling all over the place," Obama said in defense of his policies during the presidential campaign. At the same time, less public land has been permanently protected under Obama than any of the prior four presidents. Every time gas prices go up, some demagogue will say it's because we aren't sucking enough oil out of our shared setting, when in fact there is no connection between the global price of oil and annual output from government leases. But Obama has been afraid to rally the larger conservation and recreational-user coalition because he fears the wrath of the fossil-fuel crowd.

In part, this is because those who value the prairies, canyons, mountains and grasslands of Interior for something other than extraction have been largely missing from the debate. They let buffoonish politicians from rural Western areas drone on about the need to put even more public lands under control of the oil industry. They allow corporate interests who are more at home on a Saudi golf course than in a slick-rock canyon in southern Utah to speak for the West.

Just recently, that has started to change. The outdoor recreational industry directly supports three times more jobs than the oil and gas sector. People who play in the American outdoors spend \$646 billion a year, responsible for 6.1 million jobs.

Bruce Babbitt, one of the best Interior secretaries of the last 50 years, understood this historic shift but was able to convince his boss, Bill Clinton, of the power of the constituency only in the last years of his presidency.

Jewell is a mechanical engineer by education and certainly knows her way around a drilling rig after a stint with Mobil Oil. She also spent 19 years in the banking industry. But her life was never strictly defined by her day job.

When her father, an anesthesiologist from England, moved to Seattle in the 1950s, he asked what people did with their spare time. Someone told him to join REI, which was founded in 1938 by two dozen or so mountain climbers looking for a way to buy an ice ax. Today, REI is still a cooperative — socialist alert! — honoring its Scandinavian-American roots, albeit a profitable one that returns nearly \$100 million to members every year. They have 127 stores in 31 states. Jewell can be an exuberant evangelist on the subject of trying to get kids from the inner cities into the mountains. There is a profound disconnect, she often says, between modern life and the natural world. And those city dwellers without money are the ones missing out most.

Sally Jewell would be the first woman chosen to join Obama's second-term cabinet, which is dominated by white men. But she also represents a different kind of diversity inside the Beltway: someone who can tell you which way the wind is blowing without having to fake it. □



Don't Hack The Hacks



MAUREEN DOWD
© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON — I spent a long time looking at W.'s sprezzatura in the shower, the play of light and shadow on his muscular back, and his face winsomely reflected in the shaving mirror.

I gazed at the former president's legs and toes in the bathtub, overcome with relief that W. was now under the influence of Lucian Freud rather than Dick Cheney. Images of W.'s tasteful nude self-portraits went viral after being published on the Smoking Gun website on Thursday; they were stolen from his sister Doro's email account by a hacker called Guccifer, who is now being investigated by the Secret Service for pillaging three years of Bush family email.

Congress and the news media are engaged in a febrile debate about the way America has used torture and drones, trying to figure out if the war on terror launched by W. got out of control and warped our sense of right and wrong. In the midst of this cacophony on morality, W. himself seems to have escaped to a simpler, more solipsistic landscape, making illustrations of his illustrious torso.

We are not talking Bonnard-level nude bath paintings. But, like W.'s charming oil portrait of Barney,

signed "43," which he released himself when his dog died recently, the pictures were surprisingly interesting and humanizing.

The way the artist uses light on surfaces, the sun coming through a fabric shade and hitting the water in the bathtub, is quite deft, as are his brush strokes and his use of a "Rokeby Venus"-style face in the mirror. The man can handle a brush. And we thought he could only clear brush. The president who came across as a paint-by-numbers executive in public life can actually paint in private life.

It's weird because W.'s presidency was not a reality-based undertaking; it did not look carefully at the world. And yet his paintings reflect meticulous optical observation. As president (where he also showed sprezzatura), W. was led by Cheney and Rummy. But as a painter, he savors his own perspective. The Smoking Gun reported that Guccifer infiltrated the email of Doro Bush and several family friends, collecting cell-phone numbers, security codes, photos — including ones of the paintings and another of the first President Bush in the hospital — and emails, including one by Jeb Bush about how his father helped restore Bill Clinton's "sordid reputation." It was a week for worrying about the dark side of our cool, fast, exciting, heedless new technologies. We are so dizzy and intoxicated by our new toys — from iPhones to drones — that we are hopelessly addicted to them before we fully understand the downsides.

The instant gratification they offer makes us shortsighted in an unprecedented way. It's insane how vulnerable we've made ourselves, like drunks failing to look around as they walk into traffic. Hackers could shut down the way we live, and if they hacked into drones or nuclear codes, determine the way we die. If you think

it through, which most of us avoid, the prospect of Techmageddon is terrifying.

On Thursday, at John Brennan's confirmation hearing to be CIA director, some senators took a stab at thinking it through on the smart, sleek, robotic machine that dominates our political debate. (Drones, not Obama.)

Those who battled Cheney's nefarious efforts to obliterate constitutional checks and balances and practice pre-emption can't look the other way when a Democratic president is caught up in the narcotic allure of drones and pre-emption. You sell a little bit of the democratic soul when you start zapping people with no due process. The Chinese, who have already broken into the White House computer network, have now pilfered, maybe spear-phished, oceans of emails from The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post. With the Chinese stockpiling our vile, vexed, vulgar, vivacious and vinous emails, they can trounce us easily. They can simply threaten to release a batch of our e-bombs about our bosses, spouses, dates, friends and crushes. We'll all lose our jobs, but everyone else will, too, so we can just reboot and change places.

It's already too late to stop sending embarrassing e-missives, with a decade worth of hand grenades out there rolling around.

Just as Obama knows in his heart that, while seductive, drones need limits, so we know that, while seductive, emails need limits — because sooner or later, the Chinese or some bitter hacker in his basement or some 10-year-old kid is going to make all our titillating emails public.

The rule of thumb in Washington used to be: Don't do anything that you wouldn't want to see printed on the front page of The New York Times. The new rule is: Don't send an email you wouldn't want to see printed on the front page of The New York Times. (Especially if you work here.) □

Friendships bubble up at NY Fashion Week

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL

AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Rachel Roy was at Vera Wang's NY Fashion Week show Tuesday, in a choice seat next to John Legend. Tory Burch regularly attends the shows of Narciso Rodriguez and Proenza Schouler. Diane von Furstenberg always makes room for Oscar de la Renta, and Tommy Hilfiger took in Belstaff.

Fashion has a reputation for being cutthroat, but there are friendships and mentorships as well that don't always get their due. "I'm a big believer in supporting others," Burch said in a backstage interview. Models are part of the glue here, too. Jessica Stam made it to the Chelsea space where Thom Browne was showing and Coco Rocha made a quick change from von Furstenberg's front row to Zac Posen's backstage.

Karlie Kloss was on the red carpet for the Grammy Awards, hosting coverage for MTV. She took an overnight flight from Los Angeles to New York to walk in Carolina Herrera's morning show Monday.

"These are my friends. That's why I got back in time. It's a family reunion at Fashion Week," Kloss said. "It's a common misconception that we don't get along but it's not really true. ... To have a long career, you have to get along."

Roy decided to take her show digital this year, which meant an earlier deadline for her looks. She found the newfound freedom had at least one unexpected perk: "I can go to more of my friends' shows!"

The big question mark on Day 6 of the fall previews in New York is whether John Galiano, who is on a three-week guest stint at de la Renta's studio, will attend the designer's catwalk later in the day.

RODARTE

Design sisters Laura and Kate Mulleavy grew up in sunny Santa Cruz, California, and evoked their seaside hometown in their fall collection.

But perhaps only to them. "It's really our own version of it," Laura Mulleavy said backstage. The beachy feel came across most strongly in prints — especially a tie-dye motif in silk satin, which appeared in a host of flowing gowns in pink, blue, red and black. There were even some Grateful Dead references in the mix — with the iconic Northern California band appearing via brilliant red-rose embroidery on the fanciest dresses, along with Swarovski crystals.

In the collection's most unusual element, many of the tie-dye gowns were embellished with large, futuristic-looking collars and other attached pieces made of what the sisters call 3-D double-faced foam. That was less about Santa Cruz and more about a design choice, explained Laura Mulleavy.

"We wanted to build on some structure as a contrast, so a garment wasn't all print," she said. "Something minimal and modern."

BADGLEY MISCHKA

Mark Badgley and James Mischka are big movie buffs, and it shows in their clothes as they always seem attracted to silver-screen femme fatales. Their fall collection had a film-noir vibe that always does well for them on the modern Hollywood red carpet. This time, the inspiration was Alfred Hitchcock movies — their favorite being "Vertigo."

Kim Novak as a muse makes so much sense, Badgley said in a backstage interview. "She's confident with a little bit of a dark, sexy side."

She also wears polished silhouettes like pencil skirts, fur stoles, halter-top gowns and tops with peplums very well, which fits the Badgley Mischka aesthetic perfectly. This customer, though, also likes her shine. For fall, she gets a black-and-oyster lame dress, a metallic tweed suit and a jet-black silk and wool gown with a beaded back, cut-out bodice and mermaid hemline. □



The Rodarte Fall 2013 collection is modeled during Fashion Week, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013 in New York. (AP Photo/Jason DeCrow)

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